

THE JOURNAL

Friday, April 4, 2003

50 cents (tax included)

Spring forward Remember to reset your clock ahead an hour on Sunday

Arrest Another suspect in failed EC gun store holdup is in custody [C3]

RITE OF SPRING



PERFECT WEATHER greeted participants at Albany's annual youth baseball parade down Alamo Avenue on Saturday. Above, Coleman Lukas, 10, records the passing procession. Right, the Diamondbacks play pup pop-ball before the start of the parade, which included a marching band.



Portola student takes 2nd in Bay science fair

A study testing participants' memories will advance to the state competition next month

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — Portola Middle School 7th-grader Sarah Abelson tested the memories of people and came up with some interesting results. Among her findings: In general, women could remember more objects and more names after reading them or hearing them ad aloud. People in their 20s and 30s could remember more than people under 19 or over 59. Sarah was surprised by the findings. On average, people could only remember an average of 12.78 of 20 objects, either seen, read or heard, less than she expected.

"I found out that people remember names better and that the age group that did the best was the 20- to 29-year-olds," Sarah said.

Sarah is going to the state science fair competition in May af-

ter winning a second place prize in a behavioral science category in the recent Bay Area competition. Sarah's mother, El Cerrito City Councilwoman Janet Abelson, said she's been told there are going to be a lot of big prizes and that Sarah has the chance to win scholarships.

"It's really pretty cool," Abelson said. "We're extremely excited and I'm extremely obnoxious about it. I tell everybody I see," she added with a laugh.

Students throughout the West Contra Costa Unified School district participate in their schools' science fairs. Those who do well are invited to the district science fair and after that, the Bay Area fair. It can lead all the way to the international science and engineering fair, which can have 600 or 700 projects from around the world.

Sarah spent a month working on her project and took three weeks to test people, and put her results and conclusions on a poster board.

Ten adults and 10 children and teens took five tests each. The tests consisted of seeing a list of objects, such as an orna-

"I found out that people remember names better and that the age group that did the best was the 20- to 29-year-olds."

— Sarah Abelson, science fair contestant

ment, stuffed animal or book; and proper names; hearing them being read; and looking at a box of everyday objects.

The subjects then had three minutes to write as many items as they could remember.

Sarah found that objects are harder to remember than names, and people remembered objects better by looking at a list than hearing them being read. She also found that people remember names better if they listen to them being read than if they are shown them written.

While Sarah appears to be the only student from El Cerrito go-

ing on to the state science fair competition this year, the city usually has several students who go on to the state and national science fairs annually and occasionally to the international fair, said Bob Fabini, the science department chair at El Cerrito High School and the assistant director of the Bay Area science fair.

But as older teachers and administrators retire, fewer new teachers are choosing to participate or may not even know about the local fairs, Fabini said.

He'd like to see more schools and teachers take part, saying it encourages students to challenge and sometimes amaze themselves with their results.

He wants "more kids (to) have the opportunity to do their own independent investigation," he said.

For her part, Sarah enlisted friends and family to take the tests and overall, she enjoyed doing the project.

"When I got interviewed (by science fair officials), they thought it was really interesting, the results and stuff," said Sarah, who has several ribbons and a plaque to show for her work.

City narrows choices for new city hall

■ The current site of city offices has emerged as the frontrunner for a replacement building

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — The clump of beige portable buildings known as City Hall is showing its age after 16 years at the corner of San Pablo and Manila avenues.

There's an infestation of termites and carpenter ants, the wood at the base of the building is rotten and the bathrooms are not up to code. There's not enough room to store documents, building codes or financial records, or to hold meetings. The City Council has been meeting blocks away at the community

COUNCIL MEETING

The City Council will consider sites for a new city hall at its meeting Monday, April 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center Garden Room, 7007 Mooser Lane.

center for more than 15 years. The shabby conditions present a problem for the 25 or so people who work there as well as for city officials wanting to upgrade the city's image. Many people who drive by may not even realize it's a city building.

"It's virtually falling apart," said City Manager Scott Hanin. "We're way short on space; nei-

See CITY HALL, Page A8

Castel honored for community service

■ Pat Castel has devoted years of work on emergency preparedness and other local causes

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — Even as a small girl growing up in the middle of an apricot orchard in what is now Silicon Valley, Pat Castel was dedicated to serving her community.

She volunteered at soup kitchens, and some of her most cherished memories are of helping to rebuild homes and giving clothes and food to migrant farmworkers and their families.

"I was really proud to be part

of that because it built into my whole being a sense of obligation and responsibility to others that I always will feel," said Castel, a soft-spoken 51-year-old.

Castel recently received an award for her volunteer efforts by the American Association of University Women West County Chapter and Contra Costa College for running El Cerrito's Neighborhood Emergency Assistance Teams (NEAT) program.

Mayor Mark Friedman nominated her for the "Women Pioneering the Future" award, which was given to Castel and eight other West county women at a ceremony in March.

"I think she's a shining ex-

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STEVE MASLANKA/STAFF

SARAH ABELSON spent a month working on her project testing participants' memories.

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INFORMATION FOR LIFE

IN BRIEF

Albany

Special guest at Albany's Spring Fair

The Easter Bunny will arrive by fire engine at Albany's Memorial Park Saturday, April 19, for the Spring Fair, a morning of fun and games.

The Easter Bunny will be happy to pose for pictures with children of all ages, so bring your camera.

The Easter Egg Hunt at 10 a.m. sharp will be divided by age so all children can participate. The refreshment booth will open before the egg hunt. Games and craft booths will open immediately after the hunt. All continue to noon. Puppet shows are set at 10:30 and 11 a.m.

Admission to the fair, hunt and puppet shows is free; tickets to participate in other activities will be on sale. Albany Memorial Park is at Portland Avenue and Ramona Street. This annual event is sponsored by Albany Preschool and the City of Albany Recreation and Community Services Department and supported by donations from local businesses and service organizations.

'Faces of the Middle East' at Albany center

Photographs by Ed Kinney will be presented in "Many Faces of the Middle East" at the Albany Community Center Foyer Gallery, 1249 Marin Ave.

Ed Kinney is currently the Middle East contributing editor for International Travel News Magazine, where he writes a monthly column. These photographs highlight the people he has met during his travels, particularly those of Islamic faith.

The show opens April 6 and runs through July 11. A reception for the artist is set 4 to 6 p.m. April 6.

Golf tournament to raise funds for baseball

The Albany High School Baseball Boosters are sponsoring the Cougar Golf Classic, a fundraising event to benefit the Albany High School Baseball Program on Sunday, April 27, at Tilden Park Public Golf Course. Golfers of various levels are welcome. The Cougar Golf Classic will use a scramble format, and golfers will play best ball, for \$125 each. Price includes green fees, cart, prizes and dinner. Early registration is encouraged to secure space.

Checks payable to AHS Baseball Boosters can be sent to Cougar Golf Classic c/o P.O. Box 6007, Albany, Calif. 94706. For details, call 510-525-2608 or e-mail Golf4AHSBaseball@aol.com.

Reception ushers in National Library week

A reception kicking off National Library Week will be held 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday at the Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave. The event includes refreshments and a performance by Alex the Magician at 3 p.m. Mayor Jewel Okawachi will read a city proclamation at 2:30 p.m. And State Assemblywoman Loni Hancock will be introduced. The theme for National Library Week is "Find it . . . Read it . . . Learn it . . ." at your library." Details: 510-526-3720, ext. 5.

El Cerrito

Garden club will hear about reforestation

The El Cerrito Garden Club meets at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, April 10, in the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moers Lane. Following refreshments and a short business meeting, Brenda Kendrick from the U.S. Forest Service will discuss "Penny Pines Reforestation." Guests are welcome and may pay \$3 at the door.

For more information, call 510-234-0135.

Travel books available at the Chamber

The El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce has a limited number of free Best Western 2003 travelers guides and road atlases. The guides cover accommodations and include maps of the United States, Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America and South America. To reserve a copy call 510-233-7040.

Page Turners read 'Secret Life of Bees'

El Cerrito High School's book club, the Page Turners, will discuss "The Secret Life of Bees" by Sue Monk Kidd at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 22, at the high school, 540 Ashbury Ave., in Room 604. Everyone is invited. Discussions are lively and led by students. For details, call Paula Gocker at 510-524-9560.

Harding School PTA holds rummage sale

Harding Elementary School's PTA rummage sale is set 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday in the school's lunchroom, on Key Route Boulevard. Harding Elementary is at 7230 Fairmount Ave.

Fair looks at independent living for seniors

The Open House Senior Center, at 6500 Stockton Ave., will hold a Living Independently Fair 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday, April 24, to show the latest gadgets that help people live independently. For details, call 510-215-4340.

ALBANY POLICE

Tuesday, March 25

■ **CAR WINDOW SMASHED** — A resident on the 1100 block of Washington Avenue reported that during the day vandals smashed the driver's side window of her silver '93 Ford Tempo parked in the garage area. There were no witnesses.

■ **HONDA STOLEN** — A Berkeley resident reported his '87 Honda was stolen while parked near Cleveland and Washington avenues. There were no witnesses.

Wednesday, March 26

■ **ARMED ROBBERY** — At about 1 a.m. officers responded to a bar on the 700 block of San Pablo Avenue on reports of a robbery. One of the three robbers was armed with a black semi-automatic weapon, possibly a 9mm. They were gone when officers arrived. Police are investigating.

■ **CAMRY STOLEN** — During the night thieves stole a gray '85 Toyota Camry that was parked on the 600 block of Kains Avenue.

■ **VEHICLE BREAK-INS** — On the 1000 block of Peralta Avenue, during the night, thieves broke into a blue '95 Subaru stealing a cell phone and also broke into a brown '92 Toyota Camry. There were no witnesses.

■ **EGG-THROWING** — An Albany resident reported that her 15-year-old son was "egged" while he was walking home from school. The attackers were described as four white male juveniles in a 4-door compact car. Police are investigating.

■ **ARMED ROBBERY** — At about 9:30 p.m. a business on the 1000 block of San Pablo Avenue reported being robbed by a man with a semi-automatic handgun with a silencer. The robber was last seen heading north on San Pablo Avenue and was gone when officers arrived. Police are investigating.

Thursday, March 27

■ **TRESPASSING** — At about 1:30 a.m. officers responded to a bar on the 800 block of San Pablo Avenue on reports of a subject refusing to leave. Officers arrested the 23-year-old Albany man for trespassing. He was cited and released.

■ **VEHICLE BREAK-IN, THEFT** — During the night thieves broke into a black '94 Honda Passport parked on the 800 block of Hillside Avenue. Thieves also stole a blue '84 Toyota parked on the 1000 block of Jackson

Street. There were no witnesses in either incident.

■ **OWNER FINDS STOLEN CAR** — At about 10 p.m. a resident reported locating his white '94 Saturn that had been stolen on March 21. He was requesting assistance as he was not able to turn off the engine because of damage to the ignition.

Friday, March 28

■ **TELLTALE ODOR** — At about 3:30 a.m. officers stopped a green '01 Chevrolet near Carlson and Central Avenues for a vehicle code violation. When officers approached the vehicle they detected the strong odor of marijuana coming from inside. A search found multiple small baggies of marijuana inside. Officers arrested the driver, a 22-year-old Oakland man, for driving without a license and possession of marijuana for sale. He was transported to the Oakland jail.

■ **VEHICLE BREAK-IN** — Thieves broke into a gray '84 Honda Accord parked on the 700 block of Johnson Street, opened the trunk and stole items from inside.

■ **HOME BREAK-IN** — During the day unknown thieves broke into a home on the 1100 block of Garfield Street.

■ **DISORDERLY CONDUCT** — At about 4 p.m. Officers responded to a restaurant on the 900 block of San Pablo Avenue on reports of a subject who appeared to be drunk who was urinating on the floor and attempting to urinate on people. When officers arrived, the 75-year-old Albany man attempted to kick them. He was arrested for two counts of assault, battery and disorderly conduct. He was cited and released.

■ **TRUCK STOLEN, SEDAN FOUND** — Unknown thieves stole a gray Toyota pick-up from the 1600 block of Marin Avenue. During the investigation officers located a gray Toyota sedan parked in the area that had been reported as stolen from Berkeley. The car was towed and the owner notified.

■ **VEHICLE BURGLARY** — During the night thieves stole items from an unlocked silver Honda Odyssey parked on the 1000 block of Neilson Street.

■ **VEHICLE BURGLARY** — A resident on the 900 block of Neilson Street reported that during the day thieves stole items from his vehicle while he was loading it for a trip.

Saturday, March 29

■ **VEHICLE BURGLARY** — During the night thieves broke into a silver '03

Honda Civic parked on the 1500 block of Beverly Place by smashing the right front window. They gained access to the trunk and stole items.

■ **NOVA FOUND** — Someone stole a silver '87 Chevy Nova parked on the 600 block of San Pablo Avenue during the night. It was located in Richmond on March 30 at about 4 a.m. The owner was notified.

■ **DISORDERLY CONDUCT** — At about 10 a.m. officers responded to the 1500 block of Solano Avenue on reports of a subject yelling in front of a bank. Officers arrested the 47-year-old Berkeley woman for disorderly conduct. She was cited and released.

■ **PICKUP SPRAYPAINTED** — A resident on the 700 block of Buchanan Street reported that vandals had spray painted his white '02 GMC pickup that was parked in his driveway.

Saturday, March 30

■ **VEHICLE BURGLARY** — During the night thieves smashed the window of a white '92 Toyota Corolla parked on the 600 block of Jackson Street and stole items from inside. There were no witnesses.

■ **ROCKING CHAIR STOLEN** — A resident on the 1000 block of Neilson Street reported that thieves had stolen a rocking chair off her front porch during the night.

■ **OUTSTANDING WARRANTS** — At about 10 p.m. officers contacted two people in a gray Ford Taurus parked suspiciously at 555 Pierce St. They arrested one of the pair, a 40-year-old Richmond man for outstanding warrants, two from Marin County and one from San Francisco, all for driving with a suspended license and totaling \$26,000. He was cited and released.

Summary

During the week of March 24 officers towed 10 cars, responded to 17 false alarms, attended to four lost or deceased animals, assisted two people who were locked out of their car, and responded to two reports of barking dogs. In the domestic arena, officers responded to six stand-bys, nine civil disturbances and 12 civil assists. Officers stopped 82 vehicles or persons issuing 50 citations and 32 warnings. Albany firefighter/paramedics responded to 10 medical emergencies.

— K. Osborn

EL CERRITO POLICE

Thursday, March 20

■ **BURGLARY** — Property was taken from a home on the 7200 block of View Avenue between 11 p.m. on March 20 and 6:30 a.m. the next day. The home was entered through an unlocked garage.

Friday, March 21

■ **CAMRY RECOVERED** — A Toyota Camry was recovered on the 10900 block of San Pablo Avenue after it was reported stolen to BART police on March 21.

■ **ATTEMPTED VEHICLE THEFT** — An unsuccessful attempt was made to start the ignition of a Honda Civic on the 1300 block of Liberty Street between 3 p.m. on March 21 and 3 a.m. the next day.

■ **COROLLA RECOVERED** — A stolen 1987 Toyota Corolla was recovered on the 11500 block of San Pablo Avenue at 10:26 p.m.

Saturday, March 22

■ **SATURN STOLEN** — A green 1993

Saturn was stolen from El Cerrito Plaza between 4:30 and 5:05 p.m.

■ **TERCEL STOLEN** — A 1985 Toyota Tercel was stolen from a parking lot on the 11500 block of San Pablo Avenue between 6 p.m. on March 22 and 9 a.m. the next day.

■ **CAMRY STOLEN** — A blue 1990 Toyota Camry was stolen from a parking lot on the 1700 block of Liberty Street between 2 p.m. on March 22 and 1:30 p.m. the next day.

■ **VEHICLE BURGLARY** — Clothing and other property worth \$380 was taken from a vehicle on the 2000 block of Key Boulevard between 6:45 p.m. on March 22 and 1 a.m. A window was also shattered.

■ **CAMRY STOLEN** — A 1990 Toyota Camry was stolen from the 800 block of Norvell Street between 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 23

■ **SATURN STOLEN** — A green 1993 Saturn SL1 was stolen from the 3400 block of Carlson Boulevard between 12 and 9 a.m.

■ **CAMRY STOLEN** — A 1985 Toyota Camry was stolen from Wall Avenue and Kearney Street between 9:10 a.m.

on March 23 and 9:10 p.m. the next day.

Monday, March 24

■ **BURGLARY** — Video equipment and games worth a total of \$1,500 was taken from a home on the 1700 block of Gangas Avenue between 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The home was entered through an unlocked bedroom window and the interior was ransacked.

■ **BURGLARY** — A laptop computer, \$40 in change and a mountain bike were taken from a home on the 6800 block of Blake Street between 8:30 a.m. and 5:50 p.m. The home had been entered by breaking the master bedroom window.

■ **TRACER TRACED** — A stolen 1993 Mercury Tracer was recovered on the 6200 block of Lagunitas Avenue in El Sobrante at 10:55 a.m. The vehicle had been stolen from the 6600 block of Cutting Boulevard on Feb. 15.

■ **CAR WINDOW BROKEN** — The window of a 1988 Toyota Corolla on the 700 block of Colusa Avenue was shattered between 11 p.m. on March 24 and 4 p.m. the next day. The glove compartment was ransacked but there was no loss.

Tuesday, March 25

■ **DRAWERS RANSACKED** — Dresser drawers containing women's under-

Suspect held after collision

By Karl Fischer

STAFF WRITER

BERKELEY — Police arrested a bank-robbery suspect Tuesday following a traffic collision that sent three people to the hospital.

At 9:46 a.m., a man dishwashing a silver handgun in the Mechanics Bank branch at 801 San Pablo Ave. in Albany leaving with an undetermined amount of cash. Witnesses police the man left in a blue Toyota Echo and gave a partial description of its license plate to Albany police Lt. Bill Palmini.

About 10:10 a.m., Albany police officer spotted a vehicle matching the description of the stolen handgun, a blue Toyota Echo, east on Derby Street. Several officers began searching for the suspect, said Officer Mary Kusmish.

At 10:18 a.m., police received an emergency call from a neighbor in Castro Valley, where a blue Toyota Echo was involved in a collision with a broken hand truck. The driver, a man with a broken leg, was taken to Eden Center in Castro Valley, where a broken hand truck was involved in a collision with a passenger with minor injuries.

The suspect, who police did not identify, was taken to a hospital with a broken leg, arm and hand. The suspect, who was believed to be a 31-year-old land man with previous criminal record, was taken to the hospital with police, Palmini said.

Witnesses told police the suspect was speeding on Sacramento Street when it ran a stop sign and slammed into the truck.

The Echo was reported during an armed carjack in Oakland on Monday, police said.

Palmini said officers recovered cash, a handgun and a threatening note passed to a bank teller inside the cash machine from the bank identity of the suspect after the crash.

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AHS offers the mind ample literary nutrition

PREVIOUSLY WE VISITED a freshman English class at Albany High School. This week I invite you to sophomore and junior year classes for a further look at what your education dollars are buying.

Laura Mori's 10th-grade class is reading "Things Fall Apart" by Chinua Achebe, a 1958 novel described as "a classic of African-American writing," which is "no less successful as a social document, dramatizing traditional Ibo life and its first encounters with colonialism and Christianity at the turn of the century."

By a fluke, there are only 14 students in this class while last year there were 20. Mori has two other sophomore classes and teaches a junior year honor's class and a senior film and literature class.

A history major with a minor in humanities, Mori has taught middle school and been at AHS since 1987. In the '60s, she served in the Peace Corps in Guyana, where she encountered primitive cultures similar to those in "Things Fall Apart." She exhibits artifacts including calabashes or gourds used for cooking or as musical instruments.



DAVE GREER
Man About Town

Mori asks questions about the homework reading and explains situations that students may not understand due to cultural differences. She reads aloud from the novel until the subject of eating locusts sparks a lively discussion of foods in other societies. Mori says that along the Amazon River she ate some meals that "moved."

Character study is emphasized in the ninth grade and theme with a focus on the individual in society in the tenth. This is reflected in the readings about other societies: "Lord of the Flies," "Brave New World," "The Crucible," "Twelve Angry Men," "Night," "Bless Me Ultima," and "The Joy Luck Club." The last may not stay on the list, and "Like Water for Chocolate" may be added. Students also read several books they select.

Topics for short and long papers are drawn from the

reading, as is vocabulary. Work continues on the formal essay. Grammar problems are dealt with as they arise. Poetry is read regularly, and an "argumentative essay" is presented orally.

Furaha Youngblood's 11th-grade class in American literature examines works that "reflect and distinguish a uniquely American perspective and experience." These students are reading Ambrose Bierce's short story, "An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge" from the anthology "The United States in Literature."

Youngblood sketches Regionalism and Realism, pointing out they were reactions to Romanticism, and discusses how Bierce combines them in this story. She and students read the story, and she picks out words for vocabulary study including "deference," and "habit," for attire.

Other fiction and poems have been read from the anthology, as have "The Scarlet Letter," "Beloved," and "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest." A play by either Tennessee Williams or Arthur Miller will be read, as will novels from this list: "The House of Mirth," "The Sound and the Fury,"

"The Grapes of Wrath," "The Invisible Man," "Love Medicine" and "The Woman Warrior."

Junior and senior year English classes average 30, which is high considering the emphasis on writing and the individual attention it requires from the teacher. Youngblood has another junior year class, a senior class, and two sophomore classes. She is in her first year at AHS but taught for 14 years in the Republic of the Ivory Coast and in San Francisco.

A broadcast journalist at KDIA and KPFA in the Bay Area and for PBS television in Michigan, Youngblood polishes students' oral skills in open mike presentations. Aside from written assignments based on reading, students keep ungraded "writing folders" to encourage informal writing. Youngblood emphasizes grammar, and puts out sheets of commonly confused words.

In my opinion, students who do the work in these two years will have a solid foundation for further learning and employment.

Dave Greer is a veteran newspaperman who tells the truth politely.

There's a lot that's new at Fairyland this spring

WHO NEEDS the Three Tenors? The Berkeley Symphony Orchestra has the Four Animals. Namely, Rocky and Ringo the roosters and Gideon and Lampwick the donkeys at Oakland's Children's Fairyland.



MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

The BSO's latest CD, "The Animal Singers of Bremen," features conductor Kent Nagano conducting the orchestra, with recorded sound effects by Rocky, Ringo, Gideon and Lampwick. But it wasn't always easy.

"Rocky and Ringo were no problem," says animal attendant Yvonne Backman. "First Rocky would crow and Ringo would try to outdo him, then Ringo would cackle and Rocky would try to outdo him. We got 45 minutes of these two wacky roosters making every sound in the book. The sound guys were way excited."

But getting the donkeys to bray was another story.

"I set up a situation in which they always bray," says Backman. "I let them have clear view of me with a food bucket in my hand. Normally, they would be yelling their heads off, but not a peep. Gideon was slobbering all over the fence rail, and Lampwick was trying to eat the fuzzy microphone that the sound man kept sticking in front of him."

For two days she tried every trick in the book to get them to bray. But no luck. Finally, the sound men gave up and decided to just use the donkey snorts and chortles they'd recorded.

"They carefully wrote down the animals' names for the album sleeve credit, and then we said our goodbyes," says Backman. "And as they drove away, both donkeys brayed."

There's also sad news at Fairyland: the passing of Magic the cat, who was a favorite ever since she was discovered seven years ago in the parking lot during a rainstorm, shivering and soaking wet. Her ashes will be scattered over her favorite spot next to the office building, where she loved to sunbathe in the late afternoon.

Magic's successor is a black-and-white kitten named Jewel, who was adopted from the Oakland pound. And just in time, too, because the squirrels were getting awfully full of

themselves when they realized Magic was gone.

"One of them had the nerve to come in the front door and walk right past me on his way to the feed bags in the back room," says Backman. "But Jewel has chased them all away."

This is a big month at Fairyland. This weekend, Fairyland's beloved Blue Fairy, Jacqueline Lynaugh, will present her strolling musical program, "Through the Nursery Window." Kids can choose a nursery rhyme or lullaby from Mother Goose's magic basket, and the Blue Fairy will sing or recite it — just for them!

Next Saturday, April 12, Fairyland will celebrate National Puppet Day by dedicating the Storybook Puppet Theater to its legendary Master Puppeteer, Lewis Mahlman, whose puppet shows have been delighting children for four decades.

April 26 will be the first chance to see the new Children's Theater Storybook Personalities — about 30 kids, ages 8 to 10, who auditioned last January and have been rehearsing ever since. They'll perform three new shows: "The Peach Boy and the Melon Princess," "Thumbelina," and "Brazilian Adventures."

The Storybook Personalities do more than just put on shows. They greet visitors, represent Fairyland at public events, and — most importantly — serve as helpers and role models for the younger children, who look up to them with an admiration that borders on hero worship.

Try to remember when you were 4 or 5, and think how great it would have felt to have an older kid helping you, painting your face, and generally treating you with respect.

That's what happens to little kids every day at Fairyland.

Reach Martin Snapp at 510-262-2787 or msnapp@cctimes.com.

A postcard from California's developing desert

AS YOU DRIVE through the area, you can still see some of the natural desert and shrub brush. Desolate looking, but natural. The way it is. Surrounded by towering mountains on every side, some of the very highest points, still dressed in white: the last bit of winter snow.

Gaze at it, remember it, for it isn't last long.

I am visiting the desert area of your varied state. Palm springs started it all. Now there are so many cities, one after another. Rancho Mirage is where I am staying. It is hard to tell where one town ends and another begins.

That large sandy area over there will soon be topped by a 11 Mart, a Costco, and other stores. Here, in the desert, I can find them all. Every kind of store, from the aforesaid Walmart to the finest boutiques of the Avenue. One can want for nothing. And all within a short time from each other.

One very wise thing I have noted is that they have built no desert. Most of the buildings



CLARA-RAE GENSER
Community Folk

are in beige or brown hues, and fit into the setting. And with no high rises to change the horizon, they almost seem to belong.

Excess abounds. Gated communities are the norm. So many of them, one after another. The one here has three club houses, all with restaurants, libraries, meeting rooms and other amenities. We visited a new community just being built: A bit of Tuscany coming to the desert.

Gorgeous homes, truly looking like the lovely countryside they copy. The prices start at \$1.2 million.

Restaurants? Everywhere. In some areas there are blocks of them. And the use of water is astounding. There are fountains at the entrance of all of the communities. Most homes have

swimming pools, and one new mall has a river running through it.

Man-made, it ripples over stones and pebbles, filling the air with its song and the cool sounds only water can make. How can they use so much water. I ask, remembering water shortages and droughts. Aquifers, I am told, underground water in abundance. No one has explained how an area that gets only inches of rain in a year can have so much water underground.

Patriotism, too, is everywhere. The Stars and Stripes fly from every possible flagpole.

Oh, and golf courses. More than 100 of them. And almost every home has a golf cart or two.

All those retired people have everything they can want in the way of activities.

The street names are interesting: Bob Hope Avenue, Frank Sinatra, Sonny Bono, even Fred Waring Street. The Eisenhower medical complex includes Betty Ford's clinic. There are many medical complexes, naturally, since there are so very many re-

tired people living here. Although you do see many families with small children on the streets.

It is a beautiful place, with beautiful homes and beautiful buildings, a few beautiful parks, and lots of palm trees. While I have been here there have been high winds, and the temperature has hovered in the 80s. The mountains are ever-present. The Santa Rosas, the San Jacintos, the Indio Hills backed by the Little San Bernardino. Lovely brown guardians watching over the little people scurrying about below.

The people are friendly and relaxed. The traffic is busy but not excessive. The people who serve in the restaurants, the stores, and other service areas seem friendly and eager to help. A nice place to visit.

Do you know people, places or groups in El Cerrito, Albany or Kensington that would make good subjects for this column? If so, please write me at 555 Pierce St., No. 443, Albany, CA 94706 or call 510-525-4585. My e-mail is crgenser@aol.com.

Escaped CYA ward arrested after chase

Police say the youth is a suspect in the attempted robbery of an El Cerrito store last week

CASTRO VALLEY —ameda County deputy sheriffs arrested an 18-year-old robbery suspect and prison-camp escapee late afternoon after a brief car chase on Renton Way.

Keith Asbury surrendered at 4 p.m. and was handed over to El Cerrito police, who brought him in connection with a gun-store heist last week ended with injuries to two

people, another robbery suspect and a 16-year-old boy walking near the Carlson Boulevard shop.

Police say Asbury committed at least four other take-over-style robberies in Richmond, El Cerrito and Berkeley since he escaped from Ben Lomond youth conservation camp in Santa Cruz County on Feb. 26.

Asbury was serving time with the California Youth Authority for a 2001 robbery conviction, according to the Department of Corrections. Police arrested Asbury on suspicion of robbery, burglary and assault with a deadly weapon and booked him into County Jail in Martinez.

Storytelling at El Cerrito's library week celebration

The El Cerrito Library celebrates National Library Week with a day of demonstrations and storytelling for families Saturday, April 12.

The day will start at 11 a.m. with professional storyteller Yolanda Rhodes telling African and Caribbean folk tales geared toward children in elementary school.

At noon, the Wen Wu School of Martial Arts in El Cerrito will demonstrate the Shaolin Kung Fu and Dayan Qigong martial arts.

At 1 p.m. Connie Chen and Deanne Leong will demonstrate the art of Chinese Knotting, and

participants will be able to try the ancient craft.

On exhibit at the library through April as part of El Cerrito's "Local Artists at the Library" program will be enamel work by artist Judy Stone.

Stone has been enameling since 1968 and has shown her work in fine art galleries and craft fairs in the U.S. and Europe.

She teaches enameling at the College of Marin and the Richmond Art Center.

The El Cerrito Library is located at 6510 Stockton Ave. For details, call 510-526-7512.

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THE JOURNAL

"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson

EDITORIAL

Library week celebrates an operation of freedom

ON MEETING Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," in 1862, President Abraham Lincoln is reported to have said, "So you are the little woman who wrote the book that started this great war!"

The power of words. Lincoln knew it well, and so do the libraries.

And so does our current federal government, whose USA Patriot Act has put librarians in the strange position of possibly having to protect the library-using public's First Amendment rights and privacy — from that government.

It's an interesting thing to ponder during what we might normally think of as a rather innocuous event: National Library Week, which begins Sunday, April 6.

It's easy to come out in support of reading. It's so safe, even a First Lady can embrace it as an issue with little fear of repercussion.

Who could be against reading? Children need to learn to read to make it through school and become productive adults. It's a necessary skill, even in our high-tech age. Even the Internet, despite all its graphics, depends on words.

Libraries are sanctuaries. They're safe places where we can go to find books we need for school, business or just-for-fun reading. They're places to browse, dream, sit quietly for a while and do homework. And there's so much more there: magazines, phone books, documents, historical archives, even videos, DVDs and CDs.

But book-lovers must remember that a library is not all Harry Potter, "An American in Paris" on video and old copies of Sunset magazine — though those may all be found there.

Reading, while neutral as a skill in itself, involves ideas; sometimes new ideas, ideas with which we don't agree.

By reading, we may come across information that shakes us out of our old way of thinking, or prompts us to act on what we believe. This is scary for those in power, and for those who would like to be in power.

Lincoln knew that the Civil War did not start just because of Stowe's book — which was, after all, a work of fiction. But fiction stirs emotions, and empathy. That novel opened many people's eyes to the human costs of a real wrong. And they realized they could not allow it to continue.

There are ideas in the library; all kinds of ideas.

No wonder a government would want a law that allowed it to snoop into our library records and see what some of us are reading — without telling us they're doing it.

As Albany librarian Julie Winkelstein mentioned in a December installment of her column in this paper, her library guards its patrons' right to privacy so firmly that someone can't pick up a book that's been reserved under a spouse's name, without the spouse's own library card.

Clearly, libraries take their responsibility to guard privacy seriously. And they should be applauded for that; next week is a good time to tell them they're appreciated.

JEFF HANSEN • HILLS NEWSPAPERS

SET YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD SATURDAY NIGHT



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Other deaths recalled

A March 26 news item reported a market bombing in northern Iraq in which 14 civilians lost their lives and 45 people were injured.

Whether the United States or Iraq was the perpetrator is unknown. Later the same day, Kofi Annan was quoted deploring the loss of innocent lives and pleading for humanitarian conventions in this war.

I, too, felt terribly sad when I learned of this latest atrocity. However, something rang a bell. I checked last year's calendar and my own journal to learn that on March 27, 2002, only one day short of a year's anniversary, a bombing by terrorists in Netanya, Israel, resulted in the deaths of 19 people as they celebrated a Passover Seder in a hotel.

I do not recall anyone in the United Nations deploring the loss of those innocent lives. So much for the United Nation's even-handedness and recognition and valuation of all lives.

Ruth Guthartz
El Cerrito

Courageous stand

El Cerrito City Council's courageous stand for re-visioning the use of scarce public resources from unprovoked attack on foreign lands to domestic social needs has renewed my own courage to speak.

The anthem, "God Bless America," requests every American patriot to "stand beside her and guide her."

"America the Beautiful" contains the words, "God mend thine ev'ry flaw. Confirm thy soul with self-control, thy liberty in law."

Richard Page
El Cerrito

Kudos to El Cerrito

Bravo to the El Cerrito City Council for taking the time to discuss and pass a resolution in opposition to the invasion of Iraq.

It is entirely relevant to the community and sends a message to us all that we can take an active stand against this "war".

Julie Lawrence
Albany

Refutes letter

I am replying to the March 14 letter, "Shocking admission," by Jean Siri of El Cerrito.

In her letter, Siri wondered "... if some of what they are flaring is what used to come out of the hazardous incinerator and blew on the playground at Peres School — and the neighborhood — until public complaints got it closed."

I was responsible for some of the improvements to that incinerator and managed that factory in the 1970s and early '80s. Public complaints did not shut down that incinerator; a shift of the business away from Chevron, to the more receptive industrial country of Japan, was the cause for the shut-down.

And the hazardous wastes that were destroyed, exceeding EPA requirements, means the air in the area was actually better for having been inhaled by that incinerator and exhaled after state-of-the-art waste destruction and scrubbing.

Few firms find reasons to stay if a

community doesn't want them. The children at Peres very likely had relatives that used to work there; now they don't.

I would rather ask Siri to find constructive ways to encourage industry and employment opportunities to the area instead of, as she boasts, driving them out.

Rod Satre
Richmond

Satre was the area supervisor at the Chevron Chemical Company, Ortho Diolatan Plant, located behind Peres School.

Serious plight

We represent low-income women who are pregnant and have small children. Many of us are on county aid and some are in recovery programs. We are trying hard to turn our lives around and are worried pending budget cuts will be detrimental to our efforts and our children's well-being.

Some of us have had extremely difficult dealings with the Social Services department, but some programs have proven very helpful. Now we're scared cuts will make it even more difficult to find help or placement programs. For example, those of us in resident recovery programs could see our children more often if the Parent Aids2 budget were not cut.

Residential programs give us support to take our first steps toward recovery, but three to six months isn't enough. Once we leave the residency programs, we need advocates for transitional housing so we don't slide back to square one and find ourselves homeless.

We need apartment complexes dedicated to "sober living" environments where we can live with our children and continue to mutually support our recovery. We need counseling and living-wage jobs.

We write to bring attention to these serious problems. Thousands of Contra Costa County women share our plight.

Summer Brenner
Berkeley

Brenner is an instructor at several drug and alcohol recovery residential programs in West County. This letter was written by five women in those programs.

Selection of judges

Our current selection of judges, judge behavior and the judge control of juries are related to the trial of William Penn in 1670.

Penn admitted to "speaking on the street," which could have brought a sentence of life in prison, but he was acquitted by the jury. It's described in a well-researched historical paperback novel, "The Ordeal of Edward Bushell," by Godfrey D. Lehman.

HOW TO REACH US

Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer. Letters must include your first and last name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to verification. All letters are subject to editing for brevity and style. Not all letters may be published.

MAIL: 4301 Lakeside Drive,
Richmond, CA 94530

FAX: 510-644-1735

E-MAIL: journal@cctimes.com

In California, recently, the municipal courts, many of whose judges were openly cooperating with corrupt city governments, became superior courts. I believe that corruption extends into federal courts.

California's Supreme Court chief judge called representatives of all 58 county judges together and said to meet with local residents for better service. Nothing came from it except an ineffectual report. Newspapers gave it little coverage.

Congress' selection of Supreme Court justices is part of this ferment.

I have suggested that a "reverse proof of service" be required at each level of all police and court contact with residents to officially certify that all required steps of review and consideration have actually been fully performed.

Charlie Smith
Berkeley

A civilized dream

Socialism doesn't work.

When property taxes get so high that nobody wants to pay them, people and businesses will move elsewhere. When rent control gets so onerous that nobody can rent property profitably, then people will cease to rent property.

When sales taxes and income taxes get so onerous that nobody wants to pay them, then money will cease to have value, and people will stop using it and devise some other means of exchanging goods and services.

Maybe North Korea's Kim Jong Il is telling us something: that when it is necessary to have armies and nuclear bombs to get what you want and get people to respect you, then we are back to what was before the dawn of civilization, where people carried guns and knives to get what they wanted and to protect what they had.

It seems to me we should be able to devise a more civilized society, where people could survive, appreciate one another and work to support one another's needs.

Stephen Jones
Berkeley

Hypocrites

I find it rather ironic and hypocritical that politicians are standing in line with their hands out, ready to take money.

However, when it comes to listening to my ideas, the most common reply my letters and e-mail is a reply from saying that since I do not live in their district, they cannot read or respond to what I have written.

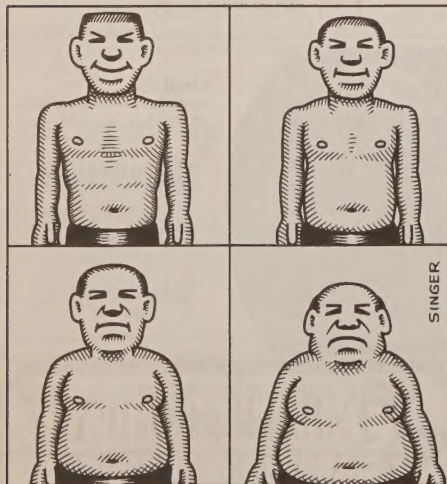
I think I have finally learned how to distribute my money politically.

Anne Smith
Berkeley

NO EXIT

© Andy Singer

SOME SETTLING OF CONTENTS MAY OCCUR



YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

Assembly

Loni Hancock: (D-14th District: Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Emeryville, Kensington, Richmond, San Pablo, North and West Oakland) State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249, 916-319-2014. Fax: 916-319-2114; 918 Parker St., Ste. A13, Berkeley, CA 94710, 510-540-3660; Fax: 510-540-3655; 101 Broadway, Richmond, CA 94804, 510-234-0211; Fax: 510-234-0213.

County Supervisors

John Giola: (1st District) 11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D, El Cerrito, CA 94530, 510-374-3231. Fax: 510-374-3429. E-mail: dist1@bos.co.contra-costa.ca.us.

Keith Carson: (5th District) 1221 Oak St., Ste. 536, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-272-6695. Fax: 510-271-5151. E-

mail: kcarson@co.alameda.ca.us.

Cities

El Cerrito: City offices, 10890 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, 510-215-4300. E-mail: citycouncil@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

Albany: City offices, 1000 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-528-5710.

Kensington: Fire Protection District

217 Arlington Blvd. 510-527-8395

Police Protection and Community Services District 217 Arlington Blvd.

510-526-4141

School board members

West Contra Costa Unified School District: 510-620-2246

Karen Leong Fenton, school board president: 510-236-8460

Albany Unified School District: 510-558-3766

Avocets are a vital link in the eco chain

SUSAN MOFFETT OF Friends of Albany Beach organized a birding walk early this year, and asked me to do it.

My husband, Larry Fitzsimons, brought his spotting scope and eagle eyes. There are some veteran birders, like Susan Schwarz of Friends of the Creeks, and some first-timers joined us as well.

We set up the scope in several places along the plateau around midday. It was great watching the thrill of first-timers sighting long-billed curlews and marbled godwits, and willetts in their winter plumage, and diving Western grebes.

The stately American avocets with long spindly legs are sharply contrasting black and white then. If you catch sight of them now, you will notice a lovely light brown color on their heads and necks.



SUZANNE CONRAD
Shoreline Walks

What happened? Unlike scaups, who travel north to breed, the avocets come to our Bay. So we are able to watch the transformation from winter white on their heads and necks to breeding plumage.

Look for them during low tide using their long, black, slightly upturned beaks to dramatically swish back and forth in the top layers of mud and water to stir up crabs and insects. I learned about the wonderful interrelationship between shorebirds, mudflats and people from a program for teachers called the Shorebird

DETAILS

■ For information on Friends of Albany Beach events, contact Susan Moffett at 510-525-3125.

Sister Schools Program, run by U.S. Fish and Wildlife.

Shorebirds depend upon wetlands for food. Mud flats, marshes, and river deltas are types of wetlands. When we fill them, shorebirds cannot find food. Did you know that their droppings (or guano), fertilize the mudflats and water, which helps phytoplankton grow? Phytoplankton are microscopic plants, which are the base of the food chain upon which the fish we eat depend. So remember to thank them as you walk, bike, skate, or drive by the Bay on the way out for a healthy fish dinner!

Suzanne Conrad is a member



CONTRIBUTED ILLUSTRATION

THE AVOCET'S head and neck turns light brown during breeding season; they're in residence now on the shoreline.

of the Albany Waterfront Committee and docent at Audubon Canyon Ranch, Conrad will be writing about the natural habitat along Albany's shoreline. E-mail your personal bird sightings from the park to Conrad_suzanne@hotmail.com.



TUE NAM TON/STAFF

Command performance

THE ALBANY HIGH Jazz Band (above) performs during the Superintendent's Concert at the high school on March 20. The concert features every music student in middle and high school performing for their parents, teachers and friends. This is the 26th year the event has been held in Albany. The event also included a K-12 student art show in the high school lobby, video presentations and advanced high school artists working on their paintings. The art show was part of Alameda County's Art is Education Month festivities.

ALBANY PTA NEWS

Albany High School

Interested parents may receive the daily bulletin and important announcements by e-mail. Contact Linda Karno at lkarno@earthlink.net April Second Curriculum Conversation with Principal Galindo and Superintendent Wong, 9 a.m., AHS Library, submit questions in advance to ahspta2002@yahoo.com

April 7, Site Council Meeting, 6 p.m., Site Conf Room

April 7, PTA Meeting, Embracing Diversity: Films presentation, 7 p.m., AHS Library

April 9, AHS Chapter of Albany Music and Meeting, 7 p.m., AHS Library

Scrip Orders: Edna Shipley at 510-27-0745, e-mail: Ednamrning@aol.com

Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@sbcglobal.net 510-26-2018

Albany Middle School

Interested parents may receive the daily bulletin and important announcements by e-mail. Contact Nancy Nelson at nannelson@aol.com Scrip Orders: Call Dorothy Brown at 510-524-3123 or e-mail: dorothyinc@yahoo.com Reminder: Save and turn in General Mills boxtops for education to office.

education to office.

Cornell Elementary School

Interested parents may receive important announcements by e-mail. Contact Barbara Grady-Ayer at gradyayer@aol.com Scrip Orders: Call Mark Priven 510-528-2082 or e-mail: privwest@pacbell.net

Marin Elementary School

Interested parents may receive important announcements by e-mail. Contact Tree Stuber at marinetree@aol.com

April 10, PTA Meeting, 7 p.m., Marin Staff Room Scrip Orders: Call Helene Class at 510-526-4902 or e-mail: h.class@att.net Paper scrip for sale in the office M, W & F at 8:30 a.m. and M & F at 9:30 a.m. Reminder: Save and turn in General Mills boxtops for education to office.

Ocean View Elementary School

Scrip Orders: Call Kim Denton at 510-528-6480 RECYCLE used computer printer cartridges from your home or office. Look for bins in the library.

AUSD Board of Education

April 8, Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Cornell Multi-Purpose Room

AUSD Calendar

April 14-18, Spring Break, No School

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Previews: Sunday, April 6, 9am-4pm; Day of Sale at 10am

Estate Auction: Saturday, April 12, 11am

Previews: Sunday, April 6, 9am-4pm; Friday, April 11, 11am-7pm; Day of Sale at 10am

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Thoughts as we reach National Library Week

Quote of the week:
"What is more important in a library than anything else — than everything else — is the fact that it exists."

— Archibald MacLeish (1892-1982), U.S. poet

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK is almost upon us (April 6-12), so I thought I'd tell you a little about its history and some of the events in our area. In 1954 the American Library Association (ALA) and the American Book Publishers formed the National Book Committee. Afraid that Americans were reading less, this nonprofit's goal was to get America's families reading again. In 1958 they created the first National Library Week, with the theme "Wake Up and Read!" (This sounds like the punch line to a joke about an insomniac bibliophile.)

Other past themes include: "Info to Go ... at the Library" (1978) and "Libraries Change Lives (1993-1996)." For the last few years, libraries have made up their own themes, all ending with the ALA tag, "@ your library," which you may have seen. Every year the ALA also puts out a National Library Week Proclamation, and individual libraries can adopt theirs or create one of their own.

On March 17, the Albany City Council adopted a National Library Week Proclamation, submitted by the Albany Library Board, which includes the theme of "Find it ... Read it ... Learn it ... your library" and ends with "Now, therefore, be it proclaimed that the Albany City Council proclaim April 6-12, 2003, National Library Week in the City of Albany, California, and urge all children, teens and adults to visit the library."

In case you're wondering, the seven-member Albany Library Board, established by proclamation on Feb. 14, 1994, "advise(s) the City Council on matters relating to the Albany Library." The Bay Area Library and Information System (BALIS) has adopted this same theme, so you may see it on banners at libraries all over the Bay Area, including the Alameda County, Berkeley, Hayward, Pleasanton, Livermore, San Francisco, Oakland, Contra Costa County and Alameda City



JULIE WINKELSTEIN
At the Library

libraries. You may also notice it on Safeway bags, Albertsons promotions, on the back of buses and even on the radio.

National Library Week will begin in Albany with an Albany Library reception on Saturday. This event, sponsored by the Albany Library Board and the Friends of the Albany Library, will include the mayor of Albany, Alex the Magician and lots of cookies. (I mention the cookies because I'm making them.)

As I was researching this, I came across last year's ALA National Library Week Proclamation and I was struck by its clear message and passionate writing. As you may have already figured out from past columns, I like to speak for myself, but this document well represents my views and so I'm going to end with a few paragraphs from it: "Whereas, Americans use libraries to find jobs, to learn to read, to be literate online, to find vital health facts, to research their environment and diet — and to find food for our souls;

Whereas, free people need free libraries, and America's libraries are the cornerstones of our democracy;

Whereas, librarians are the guardians of free access to information and resources. Libraries are for everyone, everywhere;

Whereas, libraries bring you the world."

READER REVIEW: This week's book review is from Mi and the book is "Messy Bessy's Holidays" by Pat McKissack. Pat says it is 30 pages long and is a kids' book, good for first-graders. It is about "holidays and mom and dad" and one word she would use to describe it is "winter." She writes that it "is a good book and it's about holidays."

Reach librarian Julie Winkelstein at jwinkelstein@acbi-library.org or at the Albany Library.

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Calendar

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis. Mail submissions to Ann Fields, 1969 Mountain Blvd., Oakland, CA 94611; e-mail to afields@cctimes.com or fax to 510-339-4066.

Children

■ **Children's Social Skills and Manners** workshops are offered in Albany on Saturdays for two hours, 3 to 5 p.m. Each workshop lasts for four weeks. For more information and registration fees, call Linda at 527-6202.

■ **Teen Support Group** meets twice a month Tuesday evenings at the Women's Cancer Resource Center, 3023 Shattuck Ave. The free group is for teens who have a parent or caregiver with cancer. The meeting is co-facilitated by a teen whose mother had breast cancer. Details: 531-7551.

■ **Check out books** from the Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center Library. Spend quality time with your kids, meet with the children's librarian, research your Jewish roots or check out best sellers. The library is located at 1414 Walnut St. Hours: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays. For details, call 848-0237.

■ **Hall of Health**, 2230 Shattuck Ave., a health exhibit museum of Children's Hospital Oakland, presents free puppet shows, 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The Kids on the Block, the award-winning educational puppet troupe, features puppets with such conditions as cerebral palsy, blindness and Down syndrome. The Hall of Health is a hands-on community, health-education museum and science center sponsored by Children's Hospital Oakland and Alta Bates Medical Center. Hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. Details: 549-9682.

■ **El Cerrito** offers special programs for children from 22 months to 5 years of age. These programs are designed to offer parents an opportunity to leave their pre-school children in a safe atmosphere under qualified supervision. The program for ages 22 months to 3-1/2 years meets Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration is continuous as long as space is available. Located at 7007 Mooser Lane. Details: Judie, 215-4371.

■ **LGBTQ Parent and Prospective Parent Groups** meet the first Saturday of the month 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. with concurrent child care. All groups meet at the Pacific Center at 2712 Telegraph Ave. in Berkeley. Donations are requested, but not required. Details: Anna at familyprogram@yahoo.com or 415-788-8560.

■ **The Ann Martin Children's Center** offers eight "Support Groups For Mothers," sessions for first time mothers and babies their babies under 5 months. Experienced facilitator. Details: 524-0821.

Classes

■ **ASSETS Senior Employment**, job training program for income-eligible Oakland, Emeryville, Berkeley or Albany residents, 55 and older, offer classes in Early Childhood Development. Seniors can receive college credits while being paid. Classes start mid-November. Call 238-3535 for more information.

■ **The Albany Library**, 1247 Marin Ave., offers free, ongoing chess instruction Tuesdays, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The lessons range from fundamental to advanced topics, and also casual play. This program is led by David Pruess, who holds the Senior Master title and is one of the top chess players and teachers in California. All levels are welcome and chess sets are provided. Call Julie Winkelstein at 510-526-3720 ext. 19.

■ **University of California Botanical Garden** holds a free Sick Plant Clinic on the first Saturday of every month, 9 a.m. to noon. UC Plant pathology and entomology experts will diagnose what ails your plant. UC Botanical Garden is at 200 Centennial Dr. in Berkeley. For information, call 510-643-2755.

■ **Folkdance classes**, Mondays 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Arlington Community Church, 53 Arlington Ave. (across from the Kensington Library). Simple, clear lessons for people of all levels. Empha-

sis is good music and fun. Cost: \$30 for 6-week session (pro-rated fees apply), \$8 for drop in session. Details: Mel Harte, at 848-5289 before 9 p.m.

■ **Vista Community College**, 2020 Milvia St., offers its new Sunrise College this spring with classes in accounting, e-commerce, business, Java programming, English, ESL, statistics and Spanish for business professionals. Classes start at 7 a.m. and end at 9 a.m. Call 981-2800 for more information.

■ **Assets Senior Employment** offers a job training program for income-eligible people 55 and older living in Oakland, Emeryville, Berkeley and Albany. Earn when you learn. Interested in working with children? You can receive college credit in Early Childhood Development while being paid. Details: 238-3554.

■ **Julia Morgan Center for the Arts**, 2640 College Ave., offers a family-friendly program of classes, workshops and activities taught by professional teaching artists, all aimed at bringing arts participation into people's everyday lives. Classes take place at the Julia Morgan Center for the Arts. For details, including class descriptions, fees, and instructor bios, call 845-8542 or see www.juliamorgan.org.

■ **The Berkeley Adult School** offers Adult Basic Education classes, High School Diploma Requirement classes, General Educational Development Preparation classes which can be utilized to earn a GED certificate, and Preparation for US Citizenship classes. The classes are free. BAS also offers, for an affordable fee, a variety of vocational classes and computer classes, ranging from introduction to Computers to Advanced Computer Applications. Details: 644-8130.

■ **The South Berkeley Senior Center**, 2939 Ellis St., offers a variety of classes. Details: 883-5222.

■ **Interview Clinics** sponsored by Turning Point Center at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, are held on Monday mornings from 9-11 by appointment. 30-minute sessions are \$15 for YWCA members and \$20 for non-members. Call 848-6370 and leave a message to reserve an appointment time. Leave a name and telephone number.

■ **A free CopWatch** class takes place Monday nights from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at 2022 Blake St. near Shattuck. Know your rights. Details: 548-0425.

■ **Berkeley Community Media**, Channel 25, offers affordable classes in video production and editing to Berkeley residents. Free orientations designed to introduce BCM to the public are held Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at 2239 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way. Details: 848-2288 and ask for Patrick, John or Sage.

■ **Ashkenaz**, 1317 San Pablo Ave., offers many dances classes ranging from Afro-Cuban to Keraljani Dances of India, to West Coast Swing to Lindy Hop and East Coast Swing. Ashkenaz is a non-profit music and dance community center. Details: 525-5054.

■ **Life Stories/College and Ceramics** classes forming at St. John's Senior Center, 2727 College Ave., Tuesday mornings 9 a.m. to noon. All are welcome. Free. Sponsored by Berkeley Adult School. Details: 845-8830.

■ **Dance and Fitness** Classes open to all in flamenco, Afro-Brazilian, belly dance, salsa, swing, ballroom, tap, theater dance, yoga, chi gung, tai chi, aikido, pilates-based body conditioning and more at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft



WILDFLOWERS BLOOM at Redwood Regional Park. The park is located at 7867 Redwood Road, Oakland. Park hours are 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. Information: 510-562-7275.

Way, Berkeley. Drop in fees: \$8-10. Information: 848-6370.

■ **Let's Swing and Jitterbug**: 7 p.m. beginning classes, 8 p.m. intermediate; four-week dance classes beginning the first Tuesday of the month; Finnish Brotherhood Hall, 1970 Chestnut, Berkeley; Diana Castillo, 549-3581; \$40 for four classes.

Community

■ **Berkeley Neighborhood Computers**, a non-profit organization, provides high-value and high-demand computer technology training for disadvantaged and at-risk individuals. The organization seeks computers and networking equipment to be used for training purposes. All donations are tax deductible. Details: 845-1226 or e-mail bnc@netvalue.net.

■ **Berkeley Camera Club** meet Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley. Share slides and prints, learn what other photographers are doing. Monthly field trips. Details: 525-3565.

■ **TOPS** (Take Pounds Off Sensibly) Chapter CA 1294 is now meeting from 7:15-8:30 p.m. every Thursday evening at Mira Vista UCC Church, 7075 Cutting Blvd. TOPS is a non-profit organization assisting men and women in weight control. Details: Betty Coates at 235-0490.

■ **Turning Point** at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, sponsors Resume Clinics on Tuesday afternoons, or by appointment. To sign up for an appointment, leave a message several days before you would like to meet. Anne Levine has a background in Design and Education. For the past 10 years, she has assisted in producing numerous resumes as part of her desktop publishing business. Call 848-6370.

■ **Berkeley's Office of Emergency Services** presents a new series of free Community Emergency Response Training classes. The classes give basic, practical information, including hands-

on training in fire suppression, light search and rescue, and disaster first aid. All classes are held at the fire department's Emergency Operations Center, 997 Cedar St. The classes are open to everyone, 18 or older, who lives or works in Berkeley. Register: 844-8736.

■ **Berkeley Art Museum**, Pacific Film Archive offers a guided tour of Equal Partner: Men and Women Principals in Contemporary Architectural Practice presented by graduate students from the UC Berkeley Department of Architecture, College of Environmental Design on alternating Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. and on Sundays at 2 p.m. Details: 642-0808.

■ **Overeaters Anonymous** meet Fridays at 1:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Community Church in Berkeley, 941 The Alameda between Solano and Marin avenues, in Room 2—the child-care room—parents may bring their children. This organization is for individuals who eat compulsively? Details: 525-5231.

■ **Toastmasters**, do it now. Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice Tuesday, noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Call 883-6708 for details.

■ **Civil Rights** activists needed. Write the ACLU chapter of Berkeley, Albany, Richmond, and Kensington. P.O. Box 11141, Berkeley, CA, 94701.

■ **"Work Buddies"**: volunteers needed to work with people in early stage Alzheimer's Disease. Minimum six-month commitment, two to three hours per week. Training provided. Contact Nannette Lipton, 644-8292.

■ **Psychic Healing clinic**: 7 to 9 p.m. Mondays; free clinic at the Academy for Psychic Studies in Berkeley, audio cleansing, stress relief; 800-642-9355.

■ **SMART** project: the Alcohol Research Group in Berkeley is conducting a study to compare the cost and effectiveness of two kinds of substance abuse day treatment: medical model day treatment and social model day treatment. By calling 1-888-249-8802

and agreeing to do three interviews, individuals chosen for the study receive free treatment at existing treatment programs.

■ **The Edible Schoolyard**, an organic gardening and cooking program at Berkeley's King Middle School, seeks volunteers to work with students, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 558-1335.

■ **English-In-Action** lets you make friends from around the world. Volunteer as a conversation partner with a foreign UC scholar/student for one hour weekly. YWCA, at Berkeley. Call 843-9716.

■ **Women's Daytime Drop-In Center** in Berkeley; serving women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, needs volunteers. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Volunteers are needed for morning and afternoon shifts. For details call 466-5663.

Exhibits

■ **Artist Judy Stone** exhibits a selection of her enameled artwork in the El Cerrito Library exhibit case throughout the month of April. Stone has been enameling since 1968, has shown her work in fine art galleries and craft fairs in the US and Europe. Her work is shown as part of the El Cerrito Library's "Local Artists" at the Library program. The library is located at 6510 Stockton Ave., in El Cerrito. For more information, call 510-526-7512.

■ **"River Stories"**, an exhibit by Judi Miller, through 11, at the John F. Kennedy University Arts Annex, 2956 San Pablo Ave., second floor. Miller has taken her plain air studies and stories of both California and Alaskan rivers through an emotionally fluid and transformative journey. Admission is free. For more information, call 510-649-0499.

■ **A New Leaf Gallery**, 1286 Gilman St., presents the exhibition "Kinesis" through June 1. Artists include Susan Pascal Beran, Zachary Coffin Bella Feldman, Phil Evans, Jeffery Laudenslager, Moto Ohtake, Mark Oldland, John Tyler, and Mark White. Gallery hours: Wednesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, Sunday, 10 to 5 p.m. For more information, call 510-525-7621 or visit the Web site at www.sculpture-side.com.

■ **UC Berkeley's Graduate School of Journalism**, Center for Photography, presents an exhibit by Mexican photographer Maya Goded, through May 1. Goded, recipient of the W. Eugene Smith Fund Award, is a recent nominee to Magnum Photos. She photographs prostitutes and prostitution in order to "speak about women, inequality, transgression, the body and sex, maternity, childhood and old age, beliefs, love and unloving." A reception and public lecture takes place from 6 to 7 p.m., Jan. 31 in room 105. Details: 510-642-3383.

■ **The Richmond Museum of History** continues exhibits highlighting Richmond's agricultural beginnings, industrial achievements, and home-front contributions during World War II. Special exhibits and events are held throughout the year. The museum is located in the

historic 1910 Carnegie Library in Old Downtown area at Fourth Street and Nevins Ave. Call 235-7387 for information or to arrange tours.

■ **El Cerrito** presents Open Clay ongoing classes on Mondays, 7 p.m. Experience with clay is helpful, but not necessary. Opportunities will be provided for students to explore clay work. Demonstrations and information will be provided on request. Mission: \$7.50 residents, \$9.38 non-residents. The location: Tassajara Pottery Center, 2575 Tassajara Boulevard. For more details call Judie at 215-4371.

■ **Alta Bates Medical Center** offers work by members of the California Intercollegiate Association at its Community Art Gallery, 2450 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. The gallery is in the main corridor, left of the information desk and main entrance. Call 204-4444 for information.

■ **New Places Gallery** on Solano Avenue shows quilts and soft cloth toys and dolls exclusively. The gallery is open during store business hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday, Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday, Noon to 5 p.m., except major holidays. Details: 527-6779.

Health

■ **Charcot Marie Tooth** support group meets Saturdays bimonthly at the Berkeley Library, 1125 University Ave. from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. CMT is a hereditary neuropathic disorder. Details: 524-3571.

■ **YWCA Health and Communication**; drop in classes in dance, yoga, martial arts and more. UC YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way; 848-6370; \$8 - \$10.

Lecture/workshop

■ **"Keepers of the Flame: Jewish Women's Roles and Rituals"**, a stated study and discussion group. Chana Andler takes place April 11. Women from all backgrounds, interested in exploring women's roles and more in the Jewish tradition, invited. To keep the group small, limited, there is limited space available. Required Text: Rachel Bale's "Their History" and "Their Religion Today." Registration: \$40. Details: Chochmat HaLev at 510-704-3660 or www.berkeleycameracub.org.

■ **The Berkeley Camera Club** meets every Tuesday evening, at 7:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Community Church, The Alameda, Berkeley. Share your slides and prints and learn what other photographers are doing. Monthly trips. For more information, call 510-525-3565 or visit the Web site at www.berkeleycameracub.org.

■ **Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center** expanded its collection of contemporary fiction, nonfiction and children's books. Meet the children's librarian, research your Jewish roots, check out best sellers. The library is open to the public. Hours: 11 and

See CALENDAR, Page 2

YMCA of the East Bay Kicks Off Spring Season Spectacular!

Health Kids Day

Join your local branch of YMCA of the East Bay and celebrate the eleventh annual YMCA Healthy Kids Day, a day designed to showcase the wide range of activities and youth sports available to kids at your local YMCA. The event is free.

Spring Sports Season

The 8-week Spring Sports Season is comprised of aquatics as well as team sports (indoor soccer, basketball, t-ball, and hockey). This progressive program blends sports or aquatics learning with fun and targets girls and boys ages 5-8. Volunteers, who are essential to the success of the program, are recruited and trained to teach young players sports fundamentals in a fun, safe, non-competitive environment.

Summer Day Camp

YMCA Day Camps offer children exciting outdoor experiences, individual expression, and creativity, as well as a balance of supervised freedom with structured learning and enrichment, group-based values education and a strong community-based environment.

For further information on the Spring Season Spectacular, please contact one of the following YMCA of the East Bay locations:

Coronado 263 S. 20th St. Richmond 510-412-5647	Downtown Oakland 2350 Broadway 510-451-9622	Eastlake 1612 45th Ave. Oakland 510-534-7441	Eden 951 Palisade St. Hayward 510-247-8294	Fremont 4181 Blacow Rd. Fremont 510-657-5200	Hilltop 4300 Lakeside Dr. Oakland 510-222-9622	M. Robinson Baker 3265 Market St. Livermore 510-654-9622	Tri-Valley 4049 First St. Livermore 925-456-9125
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Center St. & MLK, Jr. Blvd.

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Calendar

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Monday through Thursday: 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays. Details: 523-737.

Chi Chuan and Chi-kung classes place at Berkeley Unitarian Church p.m. on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings at Berkeley Unitarian Church, 19325 San Pablo Ave., Suite 111, San Pablo. Information call 237-0840 or visit the site at www.ccoec.k12.ca.us/rop.

YWCA offers free orientations of Turning Point Career Center. The orientations outline the resources available to the public as well as the different programs that the center has to offer such as job training, counseling, and more. They meet every Tuesday, at 1:30 p.m. at Turning Point Career Center, located at 2600 Bancroft Way. For more information call 848-6370.

Learn Computer Applications for the Home world Using Windows '95 and Microsoft Office 2000 software, d, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, Publisher. Class offered: Monday-Friday, 6:15 p.m. Location: Contra Costa Community College, 13925 San Pablo Ave., Suite 111, San Pablo. Information call 237-0840 or visit the site at www.ccoec.k12.ca.us/rop.

What is Meditation? is a peaceful practical introduction to the basics of meditation. The free seminar takes place at Barnes and Noble Booksellers, Shattuck Ave. Priggo Dove is the instructor. Call 644-0861 for additional information.

Motions Anonymous: Twelve-Step meetings every Sunday at 8 p.m. Call 526-766 for Berkeley location.

Literary Events

Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton celebrates National Library Week ending at 11 a.m. April 12. Storyteller Angela Rhodes tells folktales from Africa and the Caribbean. These stories are geared for children in grades K-6. At 1:30 p.m. the Wen Wu School of Martial Arts in El Cerrito will demonstrate the art of Kung Fu and Dayan Gihong at 1 p.m. Connie Chen and the Leong demonstrate the art of Tai Chi Kung Fu. For more information, call 526-7512.

Storytelling for Adults, a group of storytellers and listeners, who love to tell stories, to keep the oral tradition alive, meet from 7 to 8:45 p.m. on Thursday each month at the El Cerrito Branch, Berkeley Public Library, 1940 Benvenue, at Ashby. Free. For more information, call 510-644-525-1533.

Reading Edge is available for use at the Berkeley Public Library, 2121 Alston Way. This computer program prints text and reads it back with a synthesized voice. It's suitable for anyone with a disability who requires its use to access print materials. Users must complete a brief training before using the Reading Edge. Call at 644-6648 to set up a session.

Meetings/Lectures

Botanical Garden presents a workshop for professional and amateur botanists April 5 and April 6. Workshop is offered by the Jepson Institute. Topics to be covered include overview and discussion of characteristics used in the identification and classification of ferns and fern allies in California and adjacent states. Fee: \$10. Call 510-643-7008 to register.

CA Turning Point Career Center, Bancroft Way, presents a four-part workshop "Self-Assessment for Career Development." April 1 through 22. The workshop is designed for individuals who are contemplating a career change. The workshop includes activities and discussions on the connection between you and the world of work. \$85 YWCA members, \$95 non-members. Call 510-848-6370 or visit the site at www.ywca-berkeley.org to register.

Miscellany

Shabbat Circle, a Jewish club for adults, meet 11:30 to 1:30 p.m. Mondays, at the Oakland Senior Center, 200 Grand Ave. The club is an extension of Berkeley Jewish Community Center. Activities include day trips, Jewish holiday traditions, theater outings, entertainment, and much more. Call 848-0237 ext. 115 for details.

Improve your speaking skills by attending the "Public Speaking" workshop at Berkeley Communicators'.

Toastmaster meetings, the first and third Wednesdays each month at 7:15 a.m. at Vault's Cafe, 3250 Adeline St. Call 527-2337 for more information.

The Berkeley Camera Club meets Tuesday evenings 7:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda. Share your slides and prints and learn what other photographers are doing. Monthly field trips. For more details call Don at 525-3565.

Disabled American Veterans Chapter 25 meets on the third Tuesday of the month. The evening begins with a no-host dinner and fellowship at 7 p.m. at 2068 Center St. A short business meeting follows at 8 p.m. at 1931 Center St., the Veterans Memorial Building. Price: \$3. Women who have had relatives in the US Military are invited to attend and join the auxiliary. For more details call R. DeRiti, Cmdr. D.A.V. Chapter 25, 916-732-8364.

The YWCA offers free orientations of its Turning Point Career Center. The orientations outline the resources available to the public and the great variety of workshops held every Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. The Turning Point Career Center is located at 2600 Bancroft Way. For more information, call 848-6370.

The Berkeley Avatar Metaphysics Toastmasters Club meet on the first and third Thursdays, from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at 2515 Hillegass Ave. Public speaking skills and metaphysics come together. For details, call 869-2547 or 643-7645.

Berkeley Toastmasters Club meet monthly, the first and third Thursdays at 2515 Hillegass Ave. The group specializes in developing its communication and public speaking skills in the field of metaphysics. The group also learn from each other through short speeches. Call Odette Larde at 869-2547 or 643-7645.

The Kensington Senior Activity Center meets on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. The center's community program of life-long learning is presented by the West Contra Costa Adult School. Attend any class or event you choose. Everyone over 55 is welcome. Details: 526-9146 or 547-1969.

The YWCA offers free orientations every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. of its Turning Point Career Center, 2600 Bancroft Way. The orientations outline the center's resources and the variety of workshops it offers to the public. For details call 848-6370.

Speak Smart! Join Beijing Express Toastmasters. The Smart Club! Meetings take place each Monday, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at Peking Express Restaurant, 2068 Center St. For additional information call 549-9671.

Toastmasters Meeting: Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice with us. Every Tuesday, Noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Berkeley. Call 883-6708 for more information.

Joy of Yiddish: Yiddish conversation at 1 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst. Call 644-6107 for additional information.

The Berkeley Communicators Toastmasters Club meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 7:15 to 8:30 a.m. at the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant. Details: 524-3765.

The Berkeley Arthritis Support and Education Group meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except December) 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium, Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way. For additional information call 204-4503.

Toastmasters on Campus meet the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at the English Language Program Building, 2515 Hillegass. Details: 704-1822.

Public speaking skills and Metaphysics come together at Avatar Metaphysical Toastmasters. On-going meetings first and third Thursdays, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., 2515 Hillegass Ave., Call 869-2547 for details.

"Voices of Healing" is a group exploring the psychological and spiritual dimensions of illness and healing. The group meets on the second Friday of each month, 1 to 2:30 p.m. in North Berkeley. Call 528-1235 for more information.

State Health Toastmasters Club meet every second, third and fourth Thursday of the month from 12:10 to 1:10 p.m. at the State Health building, 2151 Berkeley Way. Details: 649-7750.

Higher Alignment; 7 p.m.- 9:30 p.m. Mondays; fun, informative seminars creating spiritual partnerships; Feldenkrais Center, 830 Bancroft Way, Berkeley; 415-461-5337; \$20.

Alta Bates Support Groups - Arthritis Support Group meets the second Tuesday of every month; 1 - 2:30 p.m.; 204-4503. Call for additional special events.

Overeaters Anonymous, a 12-step

program providing free aid for those with eating problems, meets in Berkeley every Saturday at 8:30 a.m. (newcomers at 8 a.m.) at St. John's Church, 2727 College Ave. and in Richmond every Thursday at 7 p.m. at Kaiser Hospital, 901 Nevin (take Elevator C to the third floor). For further information, call 273-9292.

TOPS; 9:30 a.m., Mondays: Take Pounds Off Sensibly, Albany Chapter meets at 980 Stannage St. at Marin; 233-2948 or Karen, 525-6858.

Alta Bates Rehabilitation Center and East Bay Neurology sponsors a free monthly stroke support group. No advance reservations are required, drop-in anytime. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium on Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way, Berkeley. Details: 204-4503.

Music

Young Musicians Program celebrates its 35th anniversary at 8 p.m. April 9, at Yoshi's, 510 Embarcadero West. Proceeds benefit the YMP Art Farmer Memorial Scholarship of UC Berkeley. YMP is an honors program for exceptionally talented youth. Tickets: \$30 VIP, \$22 general admission, and \$15 students and seniors. For more information, call YMP at 510-642-9394.

Promethee Symphony Orchestra perform at 3 p.m. April 6, at the Zion Lutheran Church, 5201 Park Blvd., Piedmont. The program includes Shostakovich Symphony No. 5 in D Major, Vivaldi Concerto for Cello in G Major, and Dave Petersen Cello. Admission free; donations accepted. For more information, call 415-401-7159.

Crowden Music Center, 1475 Rose St., presents the great Russian violinist Yuri Bashmet in a viola master class at 3 p.m. April 6. Students 22 and under may audition to perform in the class at 7 p.m. April 4, at the San Francisco Conservatory. Tickets: \$15 general, \$10 for seniors, and free for students. Call Crowden Music Center at 510-559-6910 for more information or to schedule an audition.

Albany High Chamber Music Club present an evening concert performed by students entitled "Spring Suite Concert," at 7 p.m. April 10, in the Albany Little Theater, 603 Key Route Blvd., Albany. Tickets: \$7 for adults, \$5 for students. For reservations or more information, call 510-558-8501 or 510-526-42601.

The Berkeley Broadway Singers presents "Moonlight," a free concert for the East Bay Community at 8 p.m. April 5, at St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College St. Director and pianist is Ellen Hoffman. Special guest jazz vocalist Kenny Washington. Berkeley Broadway Singers, a community chorus of 75 singers, perform Broadway show tunes along with jazz, Latin and other popular music. The program includes old favorites Blue Moon, Moonlight Serenade, The Moon is Yellow, and other jazzy moon theme songs. For more information, call 510-525-7815.

MusicSources presents a program entitled "From the Dresden Court to the Parthenon," with John Schneiderman performing the works of Bach, Weiss, Coste and traditional Appalachian dance tunes. Following the presentation, time to remain for a reception and an opportunity to explore MusicSources and its historic instruments. Admission: General \$18; members, seniors, students \$15. For more information, call 510-528-1685.

The Arlington Community Church Choir, 52 Arlington Ave., Kensington, is preparing the Durfee Requiem for its Good Friday service. The work, through contemporary, has the flavor of Gregorian chant. Community singers are welcome and invited to join in preparation and performance. Rehearsals are from 8:45 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Wednesday evenings. Music is available. If you have questions, call the church office at 510-526-9146.

Ducksan Distones, featuring Donald Bailey on piano, vocals, harmonica, Isaiah Dixon, Acoustic Bass, Michael Lankford, Drums and Larry Giustino on Fretless Gibson 14, perform every Saturday night from 10 to 11 p.m. at Anna's



THE OAKLAND Public Library will present "An Evening with Maxine Hong Kingston" in celebration of National Library Week, April 6-12. Kingston, author of "The Woman Warrior" and other novels, will read from her latest book, "To Be the Poet," at 7 p.m. on April 9 at The Oakland Museum of California's James Moore Theater, located at 10th and Oak streets.

Place, 1801 University at Grant. All ages welcome.

Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., presents Grateful Dead DJ night with Digital Dave and Jazz Z.D. on Thursday nights from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tickets are \$4. Call 594-1400 for additional information.

Friday Night Folk Dancing; 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.; no partners necessary for line dances taught from Rumania, Bulgaria, Israel, Turkey, Near East and other lands each Friday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m., followed by request dances from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. No experience necessary - all ages welcome. Albany YWCA, 901 Kains Ave.; \$4; call 525-1542.

Outdoors

The UC Berkeley Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Strawberry Canyon, offers a free sick plant clinic on the first Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to noon. Dr. Raabe will diagnose. Details: 643-2755.

Learn to feed and care for orphaned baby birds: house sparrows, starlings and pigeons are introduced species that are not afforded care by rehabilitation groups. You can make an important contribution in returning these species to the wild life they deserve to have. Free training and some supplies. Call Myrna 531-3042 or Laila 655-3911.

Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, offers "Scribble Time," a technique that helps participants understand themselves and find focus. The group meets on Tuesdays by appointments and is free to YWCA members. Call 848-6370 for additional information, leave a message for Anne Levine.

East Bay Regional Park Botanical Garden Tilden Park, presents regular tours, seven days a week. Week days: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays, and Sundays 2 p.m. Special tours by appointment. Call 841-8732. For a schedule of upcoming classes call 925-820-1021.

Religious

The Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center, 1414 Walnut St., presents "The Mystical and Pagan Roots of Passover" from 2 to 4 p.m. April 6. Fee: \$10 includes sampling of symbolic foods. To register, call Dawn Kepler at 510-839-2900 ex. 347 or e-mail dawn@jfed.org.

Support

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill-East Bay Chapter holds its next monthly Family Support Group from 7 to 8:45 p.m. at the Claremont Branch Berkeley Library at the southwest corner of Ashby and Benvenue, one block west of College Avenue. Support meetings are free and offer family members a chance to talk with others who have a

mentally ill relative. For more information, call NAMI-East Bay at 510-524-1250.

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill-East Bay Chapter sponsors a support group to provide information and support to families of children and adolescents with mental illness. The next meeting is from 7 to 8 p.m. Feb. 18, at Albany United Methodist Church, 980 Stannage St., in Albany. Support meetings are free and offer parent and other family members a chance to talk with others in order to share information and get emotional support. For more information, call NAMI-East Bay at 510-524-1250.

Women's Cancer Resource Center offers Support Groups throughout the Bay area. If you are interested in attending a group, call the Helpline at 510-420-7900 during the Center's open hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 12 to 4 p.m. on the second and fourth Saturdays.

Bereavement Support Group meets Thursdays, 3-4:30 p.m. at Jewish Family and Children's Services in Walnut Creek. Topics include dealing with loneliness, isolation, anger and other unexpected emotions; changing family dynamics; and re-establishing connections with your community. Receive support in a warm, Jewish context. No charge (donations accepted). Pre-registration required. Call Mari Kutnik LCSW at 925-927-2000 ext. 740. This group is jointly sponsored by Sinai Memorial Chapel and Jewish Family and Children's Services of the East Bay.

Fibromyalgia Support Group, sponsored by the Arthritis Foundation, holds a rap session from 12 noon - 2 p.m. Feb. 18, at Alta Bates Medical Center, Herrick Campus at 2001 Dwight Way in Berkeley. Sufferers of Fibromyalgia and related conditions, their families and friends are encouraged to attend. For more details call Deborah at 510-644-3273 or for directions call Barbara Ridley at 510-404-4503.

The Sacred Voice, a cancer support group, led by Shira Stone MFT, uses the tones in the voice to induce states that are beyond words. Participants join voices with others to bring harmony and

balance the body, quietness to the mind, integration of feelings, and an experience of connection to the Source of all healing. This free group meets weekly from 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at 2951 Derby, Redwood Gardens, in Berkeley. Pre-register with Shira at 510-843-1677.

Arthritis Foundation, Northern California Chapter Fibromyalgia Support Group meet on the third Tuesday of each month from 12 to 2 p.m. at Alta Bates Media Center, Maffly Auditorium—Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way, Berkeley. The next meeting is Nov. 19. Topic: "How to Improve Your Daily Functions," conducted by Alta Bates Staff. There is no meeting in December. For more information, call Deborah Rich at 510-644-3273. For Directions only, call Barbara Ridley 510-204-4503.

Grandparent Support Group meets from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., the second Thursday every month at the Malcolm X Elementary Arts and Academics School, 1731 Prince St., room 105A Berkeley. Grandparents, relatives can express their concerns and needs and receive support, information, and referrals for kinship care. For information, call Leni Siegal, MX Healthy Start Coordinator, 510-644-6517.

Become a Certified Domestic Violence Counselor. Building Futures with Women and Children is offering a state-recognized training for those interested in volunteering with battered women and children. Training is located at 1395 Bancroft Ave in San Leandro. Call 510-357-0205 ext. 110 for more information.

The number of recent tragedies both locally and across the nation can evoke reactions that can affect us emotionally, physically, in our thoughts and behavior. Alameda County Crisis Support Services offers help through its 24-hour crisis line, grief counseling, education and community debriefing programs. Call 849-2212 for more information.

A Free Yoga for Cancer class meets every Wednesday from 11:30 to 12:45 p.m. at the Alta Bates Comprehensive Cancer Center. The classes are open to both current patients and long-term survivors. Call Janet, 891-9560, for directions and more information.

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Castel

FROM PAGE A1

ample of a community volunteer ... Pat really goes the extra mile to make El Cerrito a better, safer place," said Friedman.

The NEAT program is designed for residents in El Cerrito and Kensington to organize themselves to prepare for emergencies and disasters. Twice a year, there's a NEAT class and a hands-on drill that covers a variety of topics, including mass casualty incidents, search and secure, fire suppression, emergency communication and neighborhood preparedness.

More than 1,000 people have gone through the program, and have learned how to use a fire extinguisher by putting out a real fire, when and how to shut off home utilities, how to find victims in a darkened room, how to evaluate and tend to victims and more.

"One thing I really strive to accomplish, is impart that information in a very accessible format and utilizing some humor," said Castel. "I don't show bloody slides, I really try to keep the emphasis positive and as light as possible."

That's one part of the NEAT program. Castel also gives safety presentations to schools and community groups throughout the year, organizes emergency preparation fairs and parties and participates in the crime prevention block party event National Night Out.

"The basic goal is to do public education and provide information, be helpful and serve in a consulting kind of a mode," said Castel, adding that she doesn't charge for anything she does.

Castel attended UC Berkeley, where she met her husband, Brad. The couple moved to El Cerrito from North Oakland 17 years ago because they wanted

to live in a small community where they could get to know people and live close to public transit.

Pat Castel asked the fire department if she could volunteer with the NEAT program in 1993 after she moved to the city, and before she knew it, she said, she was running the show.

Before she volunteered, she became a certified Red Cross instructor and a credentialed emergency preparedness trainer. Castel has also been a registered nurse for more than 25 years.

"I wanted to offer my services and wanted my services to be appropriate and valuable," she said.

Castel said her goal is to help people feel safer, by teaching them to reduce or eliminate hazards.

At the same time, Castel doesn't want to guilt people into being prepared. People who do want prepare for an emergency should set reasonable goals, perhaps trying to get a few things done in a couple of months.

"I wanted to bring my knowledge and expertise to the community as a gift and I wanted to bring a personal philosophy about preparedness, which is that we don't need to live in fear," she said. "And if we create these social bonds between us we have also taken a big step forward."

Organizing a neighborhood response increases social bonds and people end up caring about each other, which creates a stronger feeling of community, she said. Ideally, Castel added, people throughout the world would be connected through those social bonds. She sees her work as a step toward that goal.

"I believe in community, I believe in people caring about working with each other, solving problems and finding solutions," she said.

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or alopez1@cctimes.com

City Hall

FROM PAGE A1

ther the air conditioning or heat work very well. Maybe a lot of people don't care but it is the city's view of itself and it's pretty grim."

For about the last 30 years, the city has been unsuccessful in its attempts to build a new city hall, but officials are now setting their sights on chancing that.

The council is expected to choose the current city hall site at San Pablo and Manila avenues, as the location of the future city hall at its Monday, April 7, meeting.

A staff proposal calls for a 14,000-square-foot building, on the current city hall site. The plan would include a city council chamber, and the replacement would be more than double the size of the trailers, which is 5,760 square feet.

The council also will look at the option of closing Manila Avenue between Kearney Street and San Pablo Avenue, to allow for adequate parking and to help fit the new building on the current site. An outdoor plaza area would be placed there as well.

The cost would be \$6.2 million for the building plus another \$1.1 million for the parking and plaza site, said City Manager Scott Hanin.

After the council chooses a site, city staff and an architect will create a conceptual design, and do a traffic and environmental analysis.

Choosing a location

The original city hall was a 1920s building, torn down in 1987 because of safety concerns. That decision might have cost the city money, said Community Development Director Jill Keimach. If the building had remained and the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake had damaged it, the city would have been eligible for state emergency funds to repair it.

As a result, the trailers have been there much longer than the three years officials intended. And until recently, the city has had little money to change that. Now there is a budget surplus and the council has made the creation of a new civic center one of its top priorities.

Ideas floated for a new city hall have included using the old Del Mar School (now the private Prospect Sierra School), building on a portion of El Cerrito Plaza, or using part of the land occupied by the police and fire department buildings, said Jane Bartke, a who was a councilwoman from 1991 to 1999.

All these ideas were abandoned, Bartke said, mainly because there was a lack of money or because the council had other priorities.

"I've seen plans come and go over the years," Bartke said. "I've seen them get all the way to where they have permits and they die, so all I can say is, 'I wish them (the Councilmembers) good luck.'"

For two years, city staff has been working with San Francisco-based BSA Architects — which designed a City Hall for the tiny Marin County town of Tiburon — to help council members decide what they want for a new city hall, where they want to build it and how much they're willing to spend. "It's not the San Francisco City



KAREN PINKOS of the city manager's office looks through property files that line one wall of a copier/printer/storage room. The city administrative offices are housed in trailers that were supposed to be a temporary situation.



DUCT TAPE is used throughout the trailers serving as El Cerrito's city offices to repair wear and such as keeping the carpet in place over the joint where the trailers meet.

Hall with huge plazas and that kind of thing," said George Janson, the architect working on the project. "It's a building that has a civic presence but it's also functional and economical and it's a building where business takes place."

At Monday's meeting, the council must officially choose a site from a list of five sites, all located within a block of each other, between Manila and Schmidt Lane. It's considered the best area, because of its central location and proximity to public transit.

The other sites up for consideration include a shopping center at San Pablo Avenue near Schmidt Lane, which has a vacant Albertson's; the corner of San Pablo Avenue and Schmidt Lane, combined with half of the adjacent vacant Albertson's shopping center; the entire block on San Pablo Avenue between Schmidt Lane north to Manila Avenue and the current city hall site plus the fire and police department site, which sits across Manila Avenue north on San Pablo Avenue, and two vacant parcels north of that.

The other four sites are larger and would have room for an entire civic center that would include

a new senior center and library. But they're considered unlikely, according to city staff, because the civic center plan is too expensive.

A civic center would cost about \$20 million to \$50 million, compared to the \$6.2 million just for the city hall, said Community Development Director Jill Keimach.

The other four sites would also take away property that could be used for retail development, Keimach said.

"What we basically focused on in the last couple months was how do we build what we need most, and what we need most is the city hall," Keimach said. "We're trying to spend public money in the most efficient way we can."

"It all gets down to money and what we can afford and what we can't afford," added Councilwoman Janet Abelson.

City officials and council members want a building that's enough meeting room and sends the city well without too expensive.

Abelson said the city should have modern, adequate space for storage, visitors, be a good work environment to attract and retain employees and present a good image for the city to attract business.

"The way it is now, (but) come to our city and we'll see that it does not have a good image," Abelson said. "It makes us look like we're very viable, healthy organization."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or alopez1@cctimes.com.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

PAT CASTEL is being recognized for her work with the disaster preparedness program for El Cerrito and Kensington.

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Friday, April 4, 2003

☆ Section B



HILLCREST'S STUDENTS In celebrating the donors to the building fund are building fund chairman Neil Finkelstein far left, the donors Wendie Schoniger from the August Company, Heidi Marchesotti from Prudential California Realty, Michael Thompson from Montclair Better Homes, Dee Land from Pacific Union and John Karnay from the GRUBB Co. Hillcrest Elementary School principal Beverly Rothenberg is at far right.

Hillcrest celebrates generous donors

Oakland school
benefits from gifts from
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HILLCREST GREAT EXPECTATIONS
Builders Duane Heil and
Heidi Schoniger of the August
Company have joined Realtors
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Knowland of Pacific Union,
Marchesotti of Prudential
California Realty and Michael
Thompson of Montclair Better
Homes in making a major contri-
bution to the Hillcrest School
Expectations Campaign.

"The August Company and the
realty agents have shown their
commitment to the Hillcrest and
Oakland community by supporting
the campaign to upgrade the
buildings," said fund chairman
Neil Finkelstein.

According to Finkelstein, the
donors all have a history of sup-
porting the community, and know
that Hillcrest and its educational
programs are a critical reason why
families choose to settle in this
neighborhood. "When looking for
partnerships with families, busi-
nesses, community groups and

See DONORS, Page B4

The August Company
and the realty agents
have shown their
commitment to the
Hillcrest and Oakland
community by
supporting the
campaign to upgrade
the buildings.

Median home price rises 11.1%

■ Sales decline 7.1
percent from February
2002

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS
The median price of an ex-
isting home in California in
February increased 11.1 per-
cent and sales decreased 7.1

percent compared to the same
period a year ago, according to
the California Association of
Realtors.

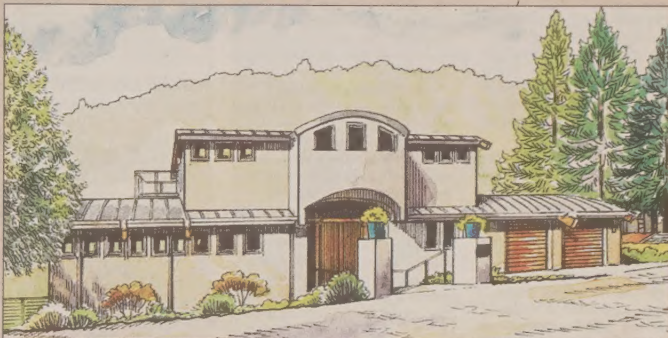
"The median price of a
home in California continued to
post impressive gains in most
regions of the state last month.
Statewide, sales declined 7.1
percent compared to February

2002, when sales hit a new
record for the month," said
C.A.R. president Toby Bradley.
"Overall, the housing market
continues to be a bright spot in
the economy, especially in light
of mixed economic indicators

See REPORT, Page B3

Real Estate Spotlight:

Grand contemporary in Claremont hills



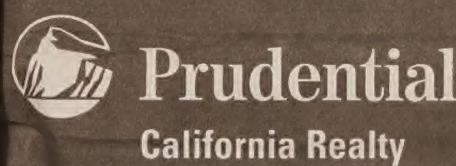
A CROWNING JEWEL GRACING ITS HILLTOP LOT, 1190 Grand View Drive is a sophisticated home with commanding views of the canyon and San Francisco Bay. Designed by Thomas Hauser and finished in 2001, this spacious three-story house sits on a 17,000-square-foot beautifully landscaped lot.

Throughout this 5-bedroom, 3.5-bath home, the materials used exude European elegance. There are Brazilian cherry floors, carrera marble around the bar and baths, green granite counters in the kitchen, and slate on the wide balconies overlooking the verdant views.

The dining and living rooms form one open, light filled space on split levels. The barrel-vaulted ceilings and clerestory windows let in the greenery and sun, yet afford privacy. There is a free-standing fireplace at one end of the living room, and a balcony with a breathtaking San Francisco view. The kitchen overlooks the dining room and makes for easy flow when entertaining.

A graceful spiral staircase connects the upper and lower living quarters. Upstairs there is a luxurious master suite with a view. There is also a second bedroom or study. The downstairs has two wings: a children's section with family room, two bedrooms and full bath; and a guest wing with bedroom, full bath, kitchenette and laundry, and garage parking for three cars. The large lot has level lawns, terraced patios to enjoy the views and green space for privacy. Price: \$1,975,000.

Listing agent: Helene Barkin of The Grubb Company, 510-331-1122.



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carpet, close to all conveniences.
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refinished hardwood floors,
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Setting the stage

■ Experts update decor to help homes sell faster and for a higher price

BY ANNIE GOWEN
WASHINGTON POST

This carpet, for instance. "This will definitely be banished," says interior design consultant Mary Sullivan, gesturing down at the 1970s-era black-and-orange carpeting as she descends into the basement rec room in Wayne and Vera Thomson's Annandale, Va., home. The Thomsons, a couple in their 60s, trail meekly in her wake.

Sullivan pauses by the basement bookshelf and swiftly begins rearranging, yanking Wayne's 50-volume set of classics into a neat row, removing a stack of dusty board games. Her glasses are sliding down her nose as she quickly shifts and tidies.

"Neatness and cleanliness," she says. "This says, 'When there is order here, there is order everywhere. This is a house that has been cared for.'"

Out goes Wayne's treasured university flag, along with the pencil drawing of a squirrel that the Thomsons' daughter, Connie, drew in fourth grade. Sullivan adds a small vase among the books. "That looks great, Mary," Vera Thomson says.

Several weeks ago, the Thomsons decided to sell the six-bedroom home near Inova Fairfax Hospital, where they have lived for 26 years. Like many older homes, the house suffers from dated decor, and so their real estate agent has hired Sullivan to "stage" the Thomsons' home. Sullivan will rearrange, accessorize and redo the rooms — as if setting a stage for a play — just before the house goes on the market, to tempt buyers into paying a higher price.

Sentimentality is not part of the stager's job description. Hon-

esty, sometimes brutal honesty, is. As Sullivan is about to add a plaster cupid candleholder to the "discard or donate" pile, she catches sight of a drooping plastic flower arrangement of sad yellow hollyhocks and worn hydrangeas in the corner. She freezes. She says, "These flowers are going to go, right, Vera?"

Wayne and Vera Thomson had hoped to live out their lives here in this brick-front Colonial with the mansard roof, its master bedroom suite with the romantic hot tub, and the gingerbread-trim window boxes that Wayne made eight years ago as a valentine for his German-born wife.

They have so many memories of this place, where they have lived for much of their 37-year marriage. "It is the old homestead," says Vera.

"When their two children were small, the house was a neighborhood gathering spot, not surprising given that Vera is the kind of mother who usually has a fresh apple pie sitting on the counter, who grabs your shoulders when you're on your way out the door and asks, 'Are you sure you don't need a pastrami sandwich for the road?'"

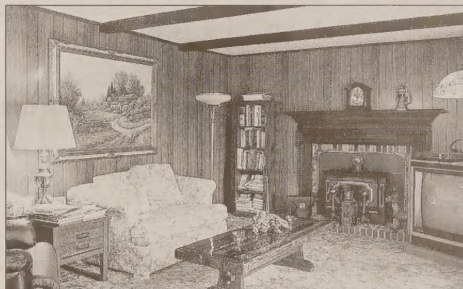
But the three-floor, 4,100-square-foot home, for which they paid \$82,000 in 1976, has proved too much for them now that they're older. "She told me the only way we could stay was if I bought her a riding vacuum cleaner," quips Wayne, a semiretired information technology consultant.

So, with mixed feelings, the Thomsons hired Annandale real estate agent Carol Greco to sell the house. Greco, among the top 10 brokers with Long & Foster in Northern Virginia, has decided to list the house in the mid-\$500,000s.

See STAGING, Page B7

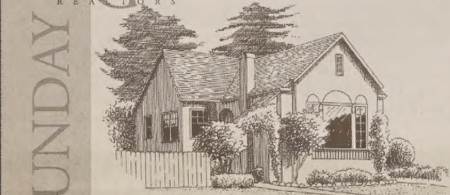


BEFORE AND AFTER: Dark wood paneling was painted white, above, and the outdated shag carpet, below, was replaced with a neutral offering in Wayne and Vera Thomson's Annandale, Va., home.



TIMOTHY BELL/WASHINGTON POST

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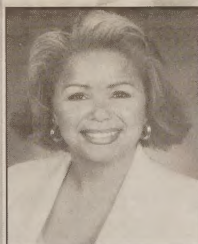
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HILLS NEWSPAPERS

BERKELEY VOICE / THE JOURNAL / MONTCLARION
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Report

OM PAGE B1

where and concerns about conflict with Iraq." Closed escrow sales of existing, single-family detached homes in California totaled 566,890 in February at a seasonally adjusted annualized rate, according to information collected by C.A.R. from more than 90 local Realtor associations statewide. Statewide home sales activity decreased 7.1 percent from the 610,380 sales pace recorded in February 2002.

Mortgage interest rates continue to play a key role in the housing market," said Leslie Appleton-Young, C.A.R. vice president and chief economist. "While year-to-date rates are down compared to last year's record pace, interest rates continue to make housing more affordable to a broader segment of the market."

The statewide sales figure reports what the total number of homes sold during 2003 would be if sales maintained the February pace throughout the year. It is added to account for seasonal factors that typically influence home sales.

The median price of an existing, single-family detached home in California during February 2003 was \$276,600, an 11.1 percent increase from the revised \$294,860 median price in February 2002, C.A.R. reported. February 2003 median price increased 2.7 percent compared to January 2003.

Highlights of C.A.R.'s resale housing figures for February 2003: C.A.R.'s Unsold Inventory Index for existing, single-family detached homes in February 2003 was 8.5 months, compared to 3.0 months (revised) for the same period a year ago. The index indicates the number of months needed to absorb the supply of homes on the market at the current sales rate.

Thirty-year fixed mortgage interest rates averaged 5.84 percent in February 2003, down from 6.12 percent in February 2002, according to the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp. Adjustable mortgage interest rates averaged 3.86 percent in February 2003 compared to 3.98 percent in February 2002. The median number of days to sell a single-family home was 35 days in February 2003, compared to 39 days (revised) for the same period a year ago.

The MLS median price and sales for detached homes are generally based on a survey of more than 1,000 real estate associations throughout the state. MLS median price and sales data for condominiums are based on a survey of more than 60 real estate associations. The median price for detached homes and condominiums represents closed escrow sales.

A separate report covering localized statistics generated by C.A.R. and DataQuick Information Systems, 92.6 percent or 377 of 408 California cities and counties showed an increase in median home prices a year ago. DataQuick statistics are based on county records rather than MLS information. Large changes in local median home prices typically indicate both home price appreciation, and large shifts in the composition of housing market activity.

Prices may be exaggerated to compositional changes in housing demand.

Statewide, the 10 cities and counties with the highest median home prices in California during February 2003 were: Newport Coast, \$1,059,000; Manhattan Beach, \$1,045,000; Beverly Hills, \$925,000; Encinitas, \$900,000; San Francisco, \$862,000; San Diego, \$860,000; San Palisades, \$811,750; San Jose, \$794,250; San Diego, \$755,000; and San Jose, \$750,000.

Statewide, the 10 cities and counties with the greatest median home price increases in February 2003 compared to the same month a year ago were: San Jose, 55.8 percent; San Francisco, 52.6 percent; San Jose, 50.3 percent; San Jose, 43.1 percent; San Jose, 41.1 percent; San Jose, 41.0 percent; San Jose, 40.8 percent; San Jose, 40.6 percent; San Jose, 40.2 percent; and San Jose, 39.2 percent.

The California Association of Realtors (www.car.org) is one of the largest state trade organizations in the United States, with more than 100,000 members dedicated to the advancement of professionalism in the real estate industry.

Find Out What Your Home is Worth On-Line visit: www.OaklandHomeValue.com Agent, Prudential CA RE

April is the time to celebrate your garden

Number 423 in a series of true experiences in real estate

It's National Gardening Month, celebrating America's favorite pastime. More than half of us are gardeners. That's what I've read anyway. But can it be true? I look for gardens everywhere I go and talk to people all of the time, but I don't find many who garden.

Most people who come to my house don't even go out into my garden, and this is fine. I don't have any need for the people I know to also be gardeners. Sometimes though, I do meet another gardener, and this is always enjoyable because we have something to share. It doesn't seem to matter what they are growing. It could be lettuce, tomatoes, or roses. If they're growing anything, we can — and we do — talk.

Probably more people would be gardeners if only they knew how. But gardening can be complicated. There are so many things to con-

Nasturtiums, for instance, are a mainstay for me. They reseed in and along a broken concrete wall that stretches almost the width of my garden. Once a year when they look ratty, I pull them all out and enjoy the bare wall for a month or so before, without any assistance from me, new seedlings appear.

sider, so many ways to go wrong. "What should I grow here?" friends sometimes ask. "You know about flowers."

I never know what to say. Have they ever grown anything? What kinds of plants would they like? Do they realize that there are things they will have to do? Select and place and care for the plants? There are almost always plants that the friends already have but don't count. Maybe there are nasturtiums outside their door, unexcelled nas-

turtiums with their clear green, round leaves and crisp orange, scarlet and golden yellow flowers.

They are a cause for celebration, exquisite beauty without care. Sometimes I will say to the friends, "Look at these nasturtiums. No care required, and aren't they terrific?" But that isn't what they want. They want a "garden." I think this means that they want to grow plants that are harder to grow, an accomplishment.

There is a lot of help out there

for those wishing to achieve through gardening. There are gardening magazines and books full of breathtaking, double-page, full-color photographs of heartbreakingly beautiful flower borders. I do love looking at these gardens, and maybe you do, too, but I wonder if they are a help?

Don't most of us find these examples daunting? It's confusing enough to walk through the aisles of a nursery and wonder all of the things that one wonders before taking on a plant for one's own. "What a gorgeous flower," I may think as I pause by a grouping of gallon-size containers.

"I wonder what it is? Oh, here's the name, and I've never heard of it. These plants cost \$8.98 each. How many would I need? How tall do they get? Do they bloom all the time or will they stop soon?"

All the watering, pruning, weeding and feeding in the world, I've found, do not ensure success. Bad



TARPOFF AND TALBERT
True Experiences

things happen to plants. Hardly ever do I understand what it was. I think about this when I am asked what a friend should plant. I would like to give a good answer but, not having one, I usually say, "Why don't you come to my garden and I'll show you what I'm growing."

The friend may come, or he might just go to the nursery and pick out some plants, take them home and put them in the ground. I think this is as good a place to start as any. The plants will either grow or they won't. If my friend's interest continues, he'll go back to the nursery, and he'll try more, probably different ones — perhaps for a lifetime.

See TARPOFF, Page B6

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Prudential California Realty

Taking a look around the East Bay real estate community

News and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries.

FOR THE PUBLIC

Schools Future

The Alameda Association of Realtors and Inform Committee present "Alameda Schools and the Children of Our Future...Our expectations, Perceptions and the Reality". The public is always welcome at the Inform. The invited speaker is **Alan Nishino**, AUSD Superintendent. The luncheon meeting is from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 9. Join the Inform at the Elks Lodge, on Santa Clara in Alameda. Reservations are needed. RSVP by calling AOR at 510-523-7229.

Grand Opening

Buyers and Sellers are invited. Help U Sell East Bay on Grand Avenue in Oakland is having a Grand Opening. Stop by on Saturday, April 5. Home buying and selling tips and education are offered. There will be refreshments and music. Direct your questions to **Leslie and Anthony Wright** at 510-251-6000.

Architect For Alameda

Attend "Our Houses" in Alameda. From architecture to Victorian classics, the Alameda Museum provides lectures for everyone who loves homes. Prominent Bay area authors and historians narrate the slide lectures. This series continues through August. The next lecture in the series is "Red Tile Style," on April 24. Architect, author and columnist **Arrol Gellner** presents a slide show with photos from his latest book. In the gallery, see the annual "Kids & Queen Victoria" show by elementary students. For lecture information call 510-748-0796.

Free Answers To Home Buying

Learn the answers to many home buying questions at "The Home Buying Answers Class" This free class is from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, May 3. Senior Loan Consultant **Margie Lupo** of Vintage Mortgage conducts the class. To pre-register, call the "Answers Class" hotline at 888-629-0077 x8610.

GRAPES OF CLASS

North American Title Company is hosting the annual "Carmers Region Wine Tasting Trip Plus",

Wednesday, May 7. Enjoy a comfortable luxury line coach ride through the beautiful Sonoma/Napa valley. Visit four wineries, enjoy a picnic lunch and complete 45 hours of DRE Credits. Everyone is invited even if you have only completed your continuing education. Attendees will be picked up at several Alameda County locations. Contact your local NATC office for more information.

MORTGAGE ISSUES

Mortgage professionals are invited to attend the California Association of Residential Lenders (CARL) dinner meeting. The next meeting is April 19 at The Crow Canyon Country Club. "Legislative Issues Affecting The East Bay..." is the topic presented by **George Duarte**, vice-president of the National Association of Mortgage Brokers. For reservations, leave a message on the CARL Hotline at 925-746-1847.

LEGACY AWARD

Prudential of California Realty (PCR) recently announced the winners of its annual awards for special achievement. The Legacy Award was presented to **Narra Asher**. Asher joined PCR in 1971. She has been on the board of directors, an assistant manager at the Montclair office and a top producer. Asher is currently a sales associate in the Orinda office.

WANTED COMMERCIAL BROKERS

Bob Valva of Valva Realty invites Oakland real estate brokers to attend the Oakland Realtors Commercial & Industrial Brokers Committee. According to Valva the group was appointed years ago, by the Oakland mayor to facilitate city sales and leasing. The committee's purpose is to help build Oakland. The next meeting is Thursday, March 13, at the OAR Auditorium on Webster. If you would like to attend call Valva at 510-451-7317.

GOV DAY

Thanks to **Terry Murphy** of the Berkeley Association of Realtors for this reminder to us all. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, June 4. On that day California Realtors make their annual trek to the capi-

tol. Find out more about issues being discussed by elected officials such as, sales tax on commissions and rents, increased transfer taxes and increased point-of-sale requirements. Many associations are planning group trips. Remember there is "strength in numbers", so check with your local association for more information.

IT'S COMING!

Tech Faire 2003 is coming. Mark your calendars for Friday, May 2. Technology courses are offered on April 30 and May 1. More information is accessible on-line at www.techfaire.org.

TECH CLASS CRS

The Northern California CRS Chapter offers CRS 206: Technologies to Advance Your Business. The class is April 10 and 11, in Oakland at the OAR Auditorium. Gregg Fujita of Harbor Bay Realty sponsors CRS 206. The course is co-sponsored by the Alameda, Bay East, Berkeley and Oakland Associations of Realtors. The course demonstrates the latest tools and systems that enable sales associates to become more productive. Learn the latest uses for e-mail, virtual tours and PDA's. Register by calling NorCal at 800-277-6003.

OAR EDUCATION

The Oakland Association of Realtors presents "45-Hours DRE Continuing Education Seminar". Earn all your credits in half a day. The seminar is at the OAR Auditorium, from 8:30 a.m. to noon, Wednesday, April 9. The topics include Ethics, Agency, Fair Housing and more. **Greg Shoemaker** of Old Republic Title sponsors this educational opportunity. Registration information is available by calling OAR at 510-836-3000.

OAR presents "The Best Kept Sales Secrets in Real Estate," breakthrough marketing that makes



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an immediate impact. Join facilitator **Jim McCraigh**, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., Friday, May 2. Would you like to get better results for your time and money? Learn how to get the most from your advertising and marketing. Register today. Seating is limited. Contact OAR at 510-836-3000.

"e-BUYER" COURSE

The Real Estate Buyer's Agency Council of the National Association of Realtors is offering an elective course. The course called "e-Buyer" is designed to help take the next step after mastering computer and Internet basics. REBAC is the awarding body for the ABR (Accredited Buyer's Representative) and ABRM (Accredited Buyer's Representative Manager) designations. To learn more about this six-hour course and ABRM designations call 800-648-6224 or visit the website at www.rebac.net.

WHO'S ON FIRST

The Oakland Housing Alliance has formed a planning committee to arrange the annual homebuyers fair. **Georgia Richardson**, President of the Oakland Association of Realtors and Patricia Bouie Hinds, President of the Women's Council of Realtors East Bay Chapter are representing those organizations on the committee.

WHAT'S UP DOC??

Someone new at your company? Something special your company is doing? Changing locations? Putting on a seminar? Let me know. I'd love to let the world know. Information deadline is two weeks before the event. Send an email to bobbierid@mindspring.com. Fax your info to me at 510-441-7191. Call me at 510-441-7190.

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FROM PAGE B1

educators, the August Company and these agents see their role in contributing to the vitality and stability of the neighborhood," Finkelshtain said.

Currently, Hillcrest has five aging portable classrooms that house the second grade, the fifth grade, two middle school classes and the library. The school is forced to use office space as a temporary computer lab. Middle school classrooms are limited with no adequate space for adequate art or science instruction.

The kindergarten classroom is currently a single room, which doesn't allow for full-day sessions. Students are being tutored in hallways and closet spaces. Portable structures are dilapidated and need to be replaced. The Hillcrest community, in partnership with Oakland Unified School District, is upgrading the site to include a new library, a math and science room and classrooms to replace these outmoded facilities.

Come to tomorrow's Walkathon at the school at 30 Marguerite Drive in Oakland between 9 am to 4 pm to show your support for the project, and meet Golden State Warrior, political activist, and neighborhood resident Adonal Foyle.

Becoming part of community doesn't just happen through osmosis. It doesn't happen just because you moved in. You as much back from community as you in to it. Not just with money, but with time and effort.

Heidi Marcheson

"Becoming part of a community doesn't just happen through osmosis. It doesn't happen just because you moved in. You as much back from community as you in to it. Not just with money, but with time and effort." That is what makes the kids that attend special. They are a part of a community that cares so deeply for the future, that they are willing to work on a project of this magnitude, honored to be a part of it. To learn more about the project and the walkathon, visit Hillcrest PTA's Web site at www.hillcrestpta.org.

Don't miss this week's Open Home Guide on B

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Remodeling industry eyes design

Interior design expert to speak to Bay Area NARI chapter members

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE REMODELING INDUSTRY

The San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI)

Zakian, who is principal of Zakian-Greenough Interiors, in Hayward, will present "What It Means to Work with a Certified Designer." She will share her tips and insight on how contractors and remodelers can best work with certified interior designers.

serves as a liaison and ally to the homeowner.

Through its certification program, including the Certified Remodeler (CR) designation, NARI offers consumers the opportunity to choose expert building professionals.

Members include professional contractors, subcontractors, architects, interior designers, kitchen-bath designers, manufacturers and other service providers and professionals. For more information, visit online at www.sfbanari.com.

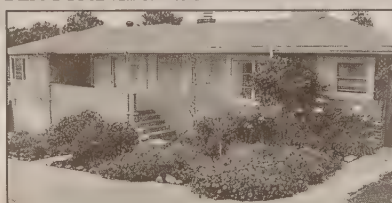
has tapped interior design expert Patsy Zakian to speak at its April dinner meeting in Emeryville.

Zakian, who is principal of Zakian-Greenough Interiors, in Hayward, will present "What It Means to Work with a Certified Designer." She will share her tips and insight on how contractors and remodelers can best work with certified interior designers. Zakian is president of the California Council for Interior Design Certification (CCIDC) and has been designing kitchens, baths, and various residential and commercial projects in the San Francisco Bay Area since 1979.

The seminar is scheduled for 6 p.m., Wednesday, April 9 at Amber Flooring, Inc., 5652 San Pablo Ave. in Emeryville. The cost for the evening is \$45 for non-members; \$35 for members and includes dinner. You can pay online at www.sfbanari.com by calling 415-345-8403.

NARI is a non-profit trade organization that promotes ethical conduct and sound business practices in the remodeling industry and

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ny tucked-away treasures

One of three parts when I was writing my guide on historic architecture of East Bay, "A Living Legacy," I covered a number of small, off-beaten-path towns that were tucked away along back roads. These towns were treasure troves of historic buildings, most of which were intact and not spoiled by commercial or tourist development. During the next three issues, we will explore these hidden treasures of the East Bay. Mission San Jose was once a community that was clustered around the site of the old mission. It is now a historic district within the city of San Jose. To get there, drive south on State Highway 238 from the Freeway 680 interchange, and on into the historic district. Just north of the old mission, Highway 238 changes to Mission Boulevard, along which most of the historic buildings are located. Mission San Jose was founded in 1797 by Father Francisco Laussen. The building that stands on this site is actually a scale replica of the original mission church, which had been constructed between 1805 and 1815. The original structure was destroyed by an earthquake in 1895 and replaced by a wooden structure. In 1982, the church was moved to the island, and the current replica of the old Spanish mission was completed in 1985. To the north of the rebuilt church is one of the oldest graves in the state. Begun in the 18th century, it contains several graves of Spanish and Spanish settlers before the Gold Rush. There are also dozens of fancier graves of early Yankee settlers from the 18th to the early 1900s. To the south of the mission church stands the oldest extant building in the East Bay, and one of the oldest in the entire Bay. The Friar's Residence of the

old mission complex was built between 1805 and 1815. Its thick adobe walls, red clay tiled roof, and exposed vigas beams, are typical of the residential structures built during the Spanish and Mexican periods. It is open to the public as a museum, as is the rebuilt church next door.

Behind the Mission de San Jose grounds are the impressive grounds of the Sisters of Saint Dominic Convent. The main structure is a three-story, Mansard-roofed, French Second Empire building that houses the nuns. It was stuccoed over in later years, but the original roofline and rounded windows of this circa 1880 structure can still be seen.

On the ground of the convent stands an architectural gem called the Mater Dei Shrine. This is a small, stone neo Gothic shrine, with miniature mock turrets, cherub's heads, and twisted finials on all the gables. Inside is an ornate, Baroque-style gilded chapel. This gem was built in 1922 for the nuns to use for prayers.

South of the Dominican convent grounds, at 44342 and 44352 Mission Boulevard, there are two pioneer era "boxes," (simple wooden structures) built in the 1870s.

Number 44342 has shelf molding above its second story windows, and a bracketed cornice above the first story. This was originally used as a hotel in the early days of the community. The much smaller, one-story cottage at number 44352 has square latticed windows, and a pedimented roofline.

Across the street, at 44363 Mission Boulevard, is a rare example of a neo-Romanesque style commercial building made of brick. It has three, massive Romanesque arches, and a Dutch Baroque style, false front gable. Beam anchors are visible on the second floor of this structure, which was built circa 1895 to 1905.



MARK WILSON
Owning A Piece of History

At number 44377 Mission Boulevard is a remnant of the "wild west" days in the East Bay. This is a false fronted, wooden commercial building that used to be a saloon. The facade has six feet of false front rising above the actual roofline, with a bracketed cornice line along the upper part. This relic of pioneer days was built circa 1875 to 1885.

One block to the north, at 43279 Mission Boulevard, is another false fronted, pioneer era commercial building. This one has a Carpenter Gothic, icicle pattern barge-board along its wooden awning, and delicate brackets lining its cornice line. It was also built circa 1875 to 1885.

To the west of Mission Boulevard are quiet residential streets with well-maintained, Victorian-era residences. At 152 Anza Street is the former rectory of Saint Joseph's Parish Church.

This is a two-story Stick-style house, moved from its original location on Mission Boulevard. It was built in 1890 with a long, wrap-around porch, and has been beautifully restored.

At 44347 Ellsworth Road is another two story, Stick-style house, built circa 1870 to 1880. It has a hipped roof, and Gothic high-peaked gables decorated with a pendant-and-cross-bar design. It was recently restored and converted to commercial use.

In next week's column, I will explore the little known town of Port Costa, an old railroad and shipping town that retains many of its original pioneer era homes, churches, and commercial buildings.

Mark A. Wilson can be reached at 510-273-9383 or by e-mail at mwilson@aol.com.

When is it time to trade up?

■ Consider both transactions involved before making your move

INMAN NEWS FEATURES

A two-bedroom, one-bath starter home may work well for a single person. But, add a partner and a couple of children to the picture and you can easily justify needing a three- or four-bedroom, two-bath home. Most first-time buyers ultimately become trade-up buyers as their lifestyle changes.

A trade-up move is more complicated than buying a first home. There are two transactions involved, rather than one. However, the challenge of coming up with the down payment, which stymies many first-time buyers, may not be a major issue for a trade-up buyer.

Most homeowners have seen the value of their homes increase significantly through home price appreciation. In some places, home prices have doubled in the past six or seven years.

Let's say that you bought your home for \$300,000 six years ago with \$30,000 down and a \$270,000 mortgage. Today you might sell your home for \$600,000. Your equity is equal to \$330,000 minus the costs of selling the home. When this equity is converted to cash, you'll be able to make a sizable down payment on a more expensive home.

Some trade-up buyers have sufficient savings to buy a new home without having to tap the equity in their current home. But, for most trade-up buyers, the biggest dilemma involves how to convert this equity into cash. There are several options. You can sell your home before you buy a new one.

The advantage of this approach is that you know precisely how much money you have to work with. The disadvantage is that you may have to move into a rental if you can't find a home to buy in time.



DIAN HYMER
House Hunting

Another option is to borrow against the equity in your current home, and sell that home after you find a home to buy. This way you avoid having to make an interim move. But if the market changes in between the time you buy the new home and sell the old one, you could sell for less than you anticipated.

You might try to avoid the pitfalls of the above approaches by buying the new home contingent on the sale of the old home. However, to do this, you must find a seller who will accept a contingent sale offer. Contingent sale offers are virtually non-existent in active real estate markets where buyer demand is high.

Deciding on which approach to use will depend on current market conditions in your area, on your personal financial situation and on your tolerance for risk. Consult with your real estate agent and financial advisor before making a decision.

See HYMER, Page B6

2 New Listings



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Tarpoff

FROM PAGE B3

And maybe he'll come to the same conclusion I have: I grow plants that like what I'm able to provide. I've tried many that didn't make it. Now, pretty much, I stick to tried and true.

Nasturtiums, for instance, are a mainstay for me. They reseed in and along a broken concrete wall that stretches almost the width of my garden. Once a year when they look ratty, I pull them all out and enjoy the bare wall for a month or so before, without any assistance from me, new seedlings appear.

I've allowed many patches of a creeping polygonum ("pink popcorn") my friend Gretchen aptly calls it) which I frequently cut back and pull out because I don't want it to cover the entire earth.

I am fond of an oxalis that was already in my garden when I came, one that I've spread around here and there.

Oxalis? Isn't it a weed? This particular oxalis is not because it doesn't spread on its own, as some others do. It grows in mounds of clover-shaped leaves with small cerise flowers blooming above. They're in bloom most of the year tying together the whole of my garden view in a most delightful way.

The biggest bang for the buck is, I think, lilies. For three to five dollars each, you can get bulbs of the exquisite lilies you see at florists. Plant that bulb and wait, and within a year, you'll have the most fabulous flowers in your garden. Many are so powerfully, sweetly scented that the aroma carries a distance.

All that lilies need — even those that grow to a spectacular height of five to six feet — are good draining

soil and water all year round. It's good to label where they are planted because they die back, making them invisible for part of the year. Another favorite of mine is sweet alyssum. Each spring I buy two flats of alyssum. I could grow it from seed (it's easy), but I so enjoy what I get by setting out a covering of young, pure white alyssum plants. It's as if I'd laid out a wedding dress in the sun.

Pat Talbert and Anet Tarpoff are residential real estate agents who can be reached at 510-853-2050 and at www.tarpoffandtalbert.com.

Hymer

FROM PAGE B5

HOUSE HUNTING TIP: Recent home price appreciation combined with record-low interest rates makes this a particularly good time to make a trade-up move. A trade-up move often involves a larger mortgage than you carried on your starter home. Low interest rates make it possible to qualify for a larger mortgage.

Thirty-year fixed rate loans are available in the low 5 to 6 percent

range. Much lower rates are available on mortgages that are fixed for five years. But, as attractive as these loans might be, consider that you might be faced with refinancing in five years at a rate that's significantly higher than today's rate.

THE CLOSING: In some markets, like the San Francisco Bay Area, home prices have softened on more expensive properties, but have remained strong on lower-priced properties. It's in these markets that trade-up buyers have a distinct advantage. There may be

high demand for the less expensive home you're selling and less demand for the more expensive home you want to buy.

Dian Hymer can be reached at 510-339-4777 or by email at Dian@Dianhymer.com.

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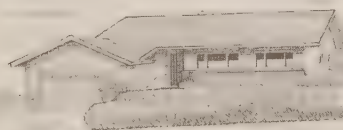
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\$229,000 608 Alameda Dr. Contemporary single level 2bd, 1ba home with fireplace and attached garage. Great starter home. Very clean and bright. Trustee Sale. Martha 510-814-4828

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Staging

FROM PAGE B2

When Greco first meets with clients and determines that their home needs some staging — a little landscaping, for example, or more tasteful furniture arrangement — she calls Sullivan, a Fair Station design consultant who has 14 years' experience in the field. Greco foots the bill for Sullivan's hourly decorator fee, and clients supply the necessary budget for paint, flooring and new accessories.

Greco says she stages 95 percent of the properties she sells, and during the recent real estate boom, where houses have been snapped up on the day of their first showings. "It's all about the first impression," she explains. "You're setting a stage, literally. Buyers make their mind up about a home within the first five minutes, so it better look good."

Real estate agents have long advised homeowners on small things they should make before putting a house on the market, but in the past few years home staging has become a rapidly growing niche within the interior design and real estate markets, according to several agents. Because the field is so new, there is little data to support or debunk the theory that staged homes garner higher market prices, but veterans such as Greco swear by the practice.

Turnkey standard

Staging's advocates say it works because people shopping for a new house usually lack imagination. "Buyers only know what they see, not the way it's going to be," explains Barb

Schwarz, a Concord agent who has taught this and other staging mantras to more than 2,000 real estate agents and design professionals in classes around the country. Staging pays off, Greco says, because these days busy families want a "turnkey" house, not a home where they will immediately have to begin painting and remodeling.

If buyers visited the Thomsons' house as is, they'd probably be turned off by the red wall-to-wall carpeting upstairs, or the dated, clashing wallpapers. Sullivan has decreed that the red carpet must go, to be ripped out and replaced with a fluffy nylon carpet in a soft barley beige. The orange-and-black basement carpeting will be replaced with neutral Berber wall-to-wall. The old wallpaper in the upstairs bedrooms is to be torn off, and the wood paneling in the family room will be painted bone white. The puffy blue toilet seat is out, as is the 20-year-old tile in the kitchen.

That will be replaced with Pergo pine laminate flooring. Adding all that to the new roof the house needs, the Thomsons expect to spend \$18,000 fixing the place up before it goes on the market.

Myriad tricks

In general, stagers' advice can range from basic common sense — "clean, clean, clean!" — to the inspired. Sullivan suggests hiding space heaters and electric fans before buyers come through, so they won't get the impression that the heating or cooling systems don't work properly. Sullivan and Greco also advise packing up kitschy collections — hide those Hummel figurines — and the trophy wall of grip-and-grin photos so common in the homes of Washington bureaucrats.

The idea is to leave the house looking blandly tasteful, and to edit out as much of the personality of the homeowner as possible.

"The way you live in a home and the way you market and sell your house are two different

things," Schwarz says. "You have to cut the strings of attachment. Your home has to become a house, and the house becomes the product."

Clutter is always the biggest problem. All houses have too much stuff, says Schwarz.

You live with clutter long enough and you don't even see it anymore, the experts say. Like the Thomsons' covered-wagon lamp. Or the Halloween scarecrow. Mr. Pumpkinhead, currently luxuriating on a chaise longue on their back porch. Sullivan always tells her clients to start by going through the house with three boxes, one for stuff to pack, one for stuff to throw away or donate, and one "maybe" box, to be re-examined before the actual move.

Fresh accessories

Once the painting is done and the clutter removed, the stager will rearrange the furniture to look

See STAGING, Page B9

REAL ESTATE DILEMMA

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101 Nova Drive, Piedmont

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Move right into this charming 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath traditional with sunny living room, formal dining, den, updated eat-in kitchen that opens to the yard, great master suite, refinished hardwood floors, fresh paint inside and out. On a cul-de-sac.

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15% estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$322,700 loan amount and includes points. Applicable closing costs will apply. Loan term is for 30 years and subject to maximum loan-to-value of 80%. Estimated payment on maximum conforming loan amount of \$322,700 is approximately \$2,594. minimum loan amount \$100,000. Homeowners insurance is required.
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5016 Cochrane Avenue, Rockridge

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This home sits on a beautiful parcel of land with expansive gardens and level lawns. Located in desirable upper Rockridge, this home offers four bedrooms including a large master, three baths, kitchen with adjacent family room, hardwood floors and north bay views.

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WEEKLY SALES

ALAMEDA

2151 Buena Vista - \$300,000
3266 Cape Cod Ct - \$375,000
511 Centre Ct - \$370,000
1622 Fernside #B - \$580,000
301 Holly Oak Ln - \$575,000
1560 Lincoln Av - \$300,000
1912 Oak St - \$250,000
2209 Otis Dr #J - \$220,000
1009 Pearl St - \$475,000
6 Remmel Ct - \$550,000
960 Shorepoint Ct - \$228,000
4 Sunny Cove Cr - \$695,000
1421 Union St - \$660,000

ALBANY

555 Pierce St #107B - \$205,000
555 Pierce St #531 - \$316,000

BERKELEY

1215 66th St - \$375,000
1317 66th St - \$425,000
1641 7th St - \$133,000
1915 9th St - \$450,000
175 Avenida Dr - \$740,000
865 Colusa Av - \$671,000
1113 Hearst Av - \$584,500
839 Hearst Av - \$400,000
1665 Hopkins St - \$730,000
1175 Kains Av - \$500,000
1925 McGee Av - \$430,000
2415 McGee Av - \$485,000
2430 McGee Av - \$486,000
2411 Oregon St - \$371,000
123 Parkside Dr - \$1,139,000
40 Tamalpais Rd - \$730,000
2641 Webster St #3 - \$236,000

EL CERRITO

6372 Conlon Av - \$393,000
1434 Everett St - \$300,000
651 Kearney St - \$375,000

EL SOBRANTE

696 Santa Maria Rd - \$346,000

EMERYVILLE

1200 66th 105 - \$399,000
1200 66th 231 - \$419,000
4107 Adeline - \$350,000
3 Captain D313 - \$254,000
5855 Horton 607 - \$305,000
5855 Horton 714 - \$610,000

OAKLAND

2227 100th Av - \$285,000
1304 107th Av - \$345,000
724 26th St - \$305,000
2131 27th Av - \$272,500
471 37th St - \$415,000
991 61st St - \$341,000
2655 63rd Av - \$283,000
3422 68th Av - \$227,500
3036 73rd Av - \$110,000
2655 74th Av - \$175,000
1527 88th Av - \$220,000
1706 8th St - \$285,000
972 90th Av - \$282,500
1300 96th Av - \$230,000
1777 9th St - \$245,000
883 Aileen St - \$388,500
3118 Arizona St - \$485,000
565 Bellevue 1008 - \$340,000
565 Bellevue 1206 - \$423,500
535 Bergedo Dr - \$270,000
609 Bergedo Dr - \$270,000
2817 Birdsall Av - \$355,000
3361 Birdsall Av - \$378,000

6803 Buckingham - \$148,000
3521 Calandria Av - \$515,000
200 Caldecott 309 - \$385,000
5 Captains Cv - \$765,000
5567 Carlton St - \$250,000
257 Covington St - \$468,000
69 Donna Wy - \$665,000
5519 Dover St - \$422,500
8108 Earl St - \$370,000
2614 East 11th St - \$485,000
1926 East 21st St - \$355,000
625 El Dorado 107 - \$283,500
7001 Elverton Dr - \$777,500
7126 Favor St - \$273,000
5721 Fleming Av - \$400,000
4102 Fontaine Ct - \$335,000
3010 Georgia St - \$400,000
2875 Glascock 205 - \$399,000
2875 Glascock 207 - \$328,500
8390 Golf Links Rd - \$265,000
5521 Harvey Av - \$345,000
6141 Hillmont Dr - \$426,500
5539 Holway St - \$245,000
2716 Inyo Av - \$350,000
3791 Latimer Pl - \$339,000
1431 Linden St - \$345,000
3709 Loma Vista - \$340,000
3875 Lyman Rd - \$605,000
5007 MacArthur Bl - \$289,000
5015 MacArthur Bl - \$298,000
1412 Market St - \$390,000
4212 Masterson St - \$220,000
4481 Mattis Ct - \$525,000
6146 Mazuela Dr - \$970,000
97 Montell St - \$555,000
2946 Morgan Av - \$388,000
1900 Mountain R9 - \$400,000
528 North St - \$525,000
750 Oakland 202 - \$383,000
2815 Octavia St - \$239,000
6437 Outlook Av - \$455,000
5366 Princeton St - \$237,000
3608 Quigley St - \$338,000
10400 Shaw St - \$339,000
13463 Skyline Bl - \$750,000
31 Starview Dr - \$685,000
7555 Sterling Dr - \$234,000
9527 Sunnyside St - \$234,000
6120 Taft Av - \$627,000
2345 Thackeray Dr - \$830,000
1287 Trestle Glen Rd - \$625,000
6152 Valley View Rd - \$533,000
500 Vernon St #216 - \$226,000
1 W. E'cadero 161 - \$224,000
4177 Wilshire Bl - \$604,000
811 York St - \$190,000

PIEDMONT

4463 Moraga Av - \$597,500
2066 Oakland Av - \$1,150,000
54 St. James Pl - \$1,260,000
80 Wildwood Gds - \$649,000

RICHMOND

116 19th St - \$540,000
540 20th St - \$320,000
19 2nd St - \$200,000
653 35th St - \$320,000
1829 3rd St - \$128,000
133 4th St - \$291,500
5242 Buckboard - \$444,000
1078 Campbell St - \$260,000
1439 Carlson Bl - \$295,000
504 Deer Park Dr - \$462,000
507 Deer Park Dr - \$476,500
6836 Del Monte Av - \$417,000
25 Duboce Av - \$280,000
2765 East Ct - \$209,000
5781 Hazel Av - \$370,000
3757 Hidden Springs - \$410,000
5835 Huntington - \$401,000
2831 Joann Dr - \$348,000

2810 Lowell Av - \$265,000
2839 Loyola Av - \$355,000
16 Mary Ln - \$275,000
451 McLaughlin St - \$275,000
2806 Meadow Crest - \$299,000
4700 Meadowbrook - \$323,000
1207 Melville 412 - \$282,500
1518 Olive Av - \$280,000
3654 Park Ridge Dr - \$587,000
804 Rock Rose Wy - \$423,500
608 Rock Rose Wy - \$460,000
627 Rock Rose Wy - \$560,000
12632 San Pablo Av - \$375,000
405 South 22nd St - \$280,000
549 South 29th St - \$170,000
415 South 34th St - \$138,500
134 S. Harbour - \$275,500
609 Thomas Dr - \$223,000
1903 Tulare Av - \$399,000
5706 Van Fleet Av - \$425,000

SAN LEANDRO

1455 168th Av - \$165,000
14483 Acacia St - \$350,000
15452 Andover St - \$380,000
2238 Black Sooter - \$432,000
2248 Black Sooter - \$415,000
1296 Burkhardt Av - \$408,000
190 California Av - \$392,500
1400 Carpenter 305 - \$215,000
1160 Coburn Ct - \$340,000
14946 Crosby St - \$311,500
400 Davis St #209 - \$306,000
15316 Edgemoor St - \$372,000
15307 Elvina Dr - \$400,000
1123 Glen Dr - \$540,000
883 Kenyon Av - \$375,000
903 Lee Av - \$609,500
16281 Liberty St - \$295,000
2417 Limehouse Ln - \$370,000
16975 Los Banos St - \$225,000
1261 Margery Av - \$340,000
550 Maud Av - \$335,000
782 Moraga Dr - \$360,000
14405 Seagate Dr - \$310,000
2251 Snipe Ct - \$429,000
1683 Thrush Av - \$240,000

SAN LORENZO

1569 Bandoni Av - \$305,000
16858 Bar Av - \$380,000
919 Bockman Rd - \$307,000
1302 Culver Pl - \$250,000
81 Paseo Grande - \$320,000
16018 Silverleaf Dr - \$462,000
17382 Via La Jolla - \$370,000
1743 Via Lucas - \$375,000
17301 Via Magdalena - \$360,000

By the numbers

ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 13
LOWEST PRICE: \$220,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$695,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$375,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$429,077

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 2
LOWEST PRICE: \$205,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$316,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$260,500

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 17
LOWEST PRICE: \$133,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,139,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$485,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$522,676

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 3
LOWEST PRICE: \$300,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$393,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$375,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$356,000

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 1
PRICE: \$346,000

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 6
LOWEST PRICE: \$254,000

See SALES, Page B9

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linoleum, brand new appliances, new
kitchen cabinets, freshly painted \$249,000

1028 ISLAND DR. 3 Bdrm./2 Bath, single level
home. New stove
SOLD \$399,000

318 D CYPRESS ST.
3 Bdrm/1.5 Bath
Reduced to
PENDING \$449,000

SAN LEANDRO

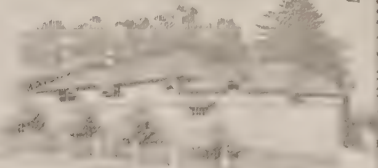
1400 CARPENTER ST. #16
2 BD/2 BA
+ transp.
SOLD \$249,000

14388 OUTRIGGER DR.
3 Bdrm/2.5 Bath. 2-1 Car Garages
Townhouse
SOLD \$349,000

OAKLAND

85 EDMONT WAY
3 Bdrm/2.5 Bath, near Duesmuir House &
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& brick woodburning
place. Updated eat-in kit
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place. Dual Pane Win
Large Lot and Much More

Offered at \$479,000



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1512 West View Drive, Berkeley

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contemporary with vaulted ceiling. The kitchen has been tastefully
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Staging

more inviting and add, if neces-
different lamps, pillows and
accessories. In Sullivan's
age, she and Greco keep a
the of tasteful objects — Chinese
es, throw pillows — that they
up at discount retailers or at
the sales for this very purpose.
And sometimes they work with
it's already there. "My best
y with staging," Greco says,
that time we moved a vase
to a side buffet to the center of
table. The seller said, "Arthur
d love this. He always had it
the center of attention." It was
ashes of his dead lover!" For
sellers, it's all about saying
odbye. What looks like clutter
a stager is beloved memories
a family.
Wayne remodeled the Thom-
ns' kitchen himself. "When I did
I didn't expect I'd be leaving
house except feet first."
he says, as the two of them
uly show off his 1992 remodel-
project, with the cherry cabi-
s and the warm gold-flecked
e countertops and the
ed-glass inserts in the cabi-
nits.
ut when potential buyers
through, Greco says, the
sons won't be around to
them their friendly, personal
Instead, buyers will get a tu-
about Wayne's remodeling
is on antiseptic little placards
Greco calls "silent sales-
s signs."
We don't let sellers follow
ers around," she says. "A
er can kill the sale. They can
ut the home's flaws, or say
othing like, 'My new house is
ng to be ready next week.'"
tly presence
vera opens one of the cabinets,
it-in with a turning shelf.

"Look," she says, twirling it happily.
"Every time a seller opens his
mouth, the price goes down
\$1,000," Greco continues.
Wayne opens up the drawer
with the kitchen's built-in cutting
boards. "These pull out," he says.
"Carol likes clients, if you can,
to get in the car and take off
when the house is being shown,"
Sullivan says.
In a few weeks, the transfor-
mation of the home is nearly
complete. Wayne has been paint-
ing furiously, and the \$8,100
worth of new carpet and flooring
has been installed.
Sullivan has begun to do the
final part of the staging, adding a

few strategic decorations, rear-
ranging the furniture and fluffing
pillows. In the living room she has
moved the Thomsons' worn blue
velvet couch out from the wall
and covered it with two sets of
pillows, one set in brown tapestry
and the other in leather.
She's repositioned the wing
chairs, added a gold fringed
throw and jettisoned two 1970s
lamps — big as cigar-store Indi-
ans — in favor of four smaller
lamps in brass and crystal. The
windows have been swagged.
"I like to make it look elegant,"
Sullivan says. "What's good is
you've taken the personality of
the seller out a bit."

"We don't let sellers
follow buyers around,"
A seller can kill the
sale. They can point
out the home's flaws,
or say something like,
My new house is
going to be ready next
week.

Real estate agent Carol Greco

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Answer: Most families have made more money in
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in building your real estate portfolio in the fastest & safest
ways possible.

I'll share stories from many of my clients on how to acquire
the most real estate with your current assets, job & income,
how the recent tax laws give you tax-free or tax-deferred
transactions, the best types of properties to acquire, how
to use your 401k to acquire real estate, how to arrange
equity-share agreements and so much more.

This is a free seminar and there is absolutely nothing to
buy. Please join us this Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

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ONLY**

**TUESDAY
April 8th
6:30pm - 8:00pm**

**FREE Admission
No RSVP required**

Sales

PAGE B3
HIGHEST PRICE: \$610,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$389,500

RAND
TOTAL SALES: 79
LOWEST PRICE: \$110,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$970,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$345,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$386,456

DMONT
TOTAL SALES: 4
LOWEST PRICE: \$597,500
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,260,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$914,125

OTAL SALES: 38
LOWEST PRICE: \$128,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$587,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$337,974

OTAL SALES: 25
LOWEST PRICE: \$165,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$609,500
MEDIAN PRICE: \$360,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$356,620

LORENZO
TOTAL SALES: 9
LOWEST PRICE: \$250,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$462,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$360,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$347,667

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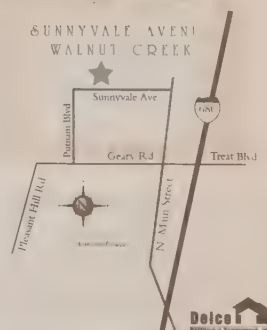
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3 bedrooms, 3 full baths + separate cottage for au pair or
guest. 2-car garage w/attached room for storage.

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KENSINGTON, 32 Highgate Ave. \$650,000
Rare 3+ bedroom, 3 bath, one-level home in the Kensington
hills on a quiet country lane. Bay view, in-law studio,
wheelchair access throughout house, garden, and studio.
Extensive disabled-friendly features.

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Todd Hodson

559-2915



EL CERRITO, 2633 Carquinez Ave. \$495,000
Spacious Mira Vista home with beautifully remodeled kitchen
and bathroom, hardwood floors, decks & sylvan yard.
Upstairs: 2br/1ba + family room. Lower level: 1br in-law.
Quiet setting yet close to park, schools, transportation.

Open Sunday 2-4
Melissa Eizenberg

292-3055



RICHMOND ANNEX, 5725 Burlingame Ave. \$379,000
Very appealing home with 3 bedrooms. 1 bath, light and airy
kitchen, remodeled bathroom. Inviting outdoor space
consisting of protected deck with golden Gate view, patio,
pond, and flowers. Sit up and off the street for privacy.

Open Sunday 2-4
Joan Underwood

559-2911



OAKLAND, "AS-IS" 6609 Brann Street \$183,500
ABSOLUTELY ADORABLE! Petite but charming one
bedroom, one bath vintage cottage with a separate one room
work studio on a fenced and gated large, level lot. Less than a
mile to Mills College & 580 access.

Terry Pedersen

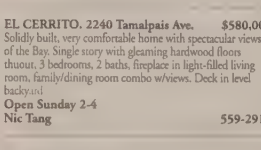
527-2700 x36



EL CERRITO, 2500 Tulare Ave. \$399,000
CONTEMPORARY BAY VIEW HOME. Captivating mid-
century 3 bedroom, 2 bath in great El Cerrito hills location.
The Asian influence enhances the clean lines of this
comfortable home. Amenities include updated kitchen &
baths, and a two-car garage.

Open Sunday 2-4
Juliana Wynberg

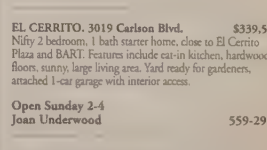
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EL CERRITO, 8266 Terrace Drive \$499,000
Wonderful Hills location in Kensington Hilltop Elementary
School. Gorgeous light-filled home with 3 bedrooms,
beautiful formal living/dining combination. Nicely
landscaped with plus room off garden for studio or
workspace.

Open Sunday 2-4
Mary Gray

559-2939



EL CERRITO, 3019 Carlson Blvd. \$339,500
Nifty 2 bedroom, 1 bath starter home, close to El Cerrito
Plaza and BART. Features include eat-in kitchen, hardwood
floors, sunny, large living area. Yard ready for gardeners.
Attached 1-car garage with interior access.

Open Sunday 2-4
Joan Underwood

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bedroom, 2 bath w/detached Euro-style cottage. True panoramic
view from every room. Romantic master suite featuring a private
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559-1444 x40

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OAKLAND \$269,000
2 BD/1 BA, w/w carpets house deal for first time buyers. Large lot with detached 2 car garage. Front yard has wrought iron fence in front and wood fence around. Make your offer and stake your claim now.

HAYWARD \$480,000
Newly available! Hayward. Beautiful, and very spacious 4BD/3BA home, 2-car garage. Near BART, shopping, schools. Approx. 12 years young. A real pride of ownership home shows excellent! Call today. Move-in right away!

BERKELEY \$435,000
North Berkeley Craftsman cottage with 1 BD+ plus office/work space. Detached with large garden lot in very quiet neighborhood. Only Minutes on foot to BART. Monterey Markets and cafes.

BERKELEY \$4,200,000
3 Building Complex spaced out with plenty of parking near BART, Shops and Transportation. A very large lot with upside potential for rental income and adding capital improvements. Desirable location!!!

BERKELEY \$1,000,000
BERKELEY 6-UNIT APARTMENT 16 - 280 Units. ALL VACANT! Owner recently completed lots of remodel type work. Property shows extremely well. A real charmer. Call us today for information on this 6 x 2 beauty!

BERKELEY \$1,250,000
Opportunity's knocking at your door! Residential income plus retail storefront space. Lots of new paint, and upgrades. Property shows very well. Busy Berkeley location!!!

BERKELEY \$499,000
TRIPLEX in two separate buildings Prime location facing two streets. Duplex and detached cottage, Monterey Market/ Acme Bakery/ Westbrae. Ideal deal for Owner occupants. Call today!

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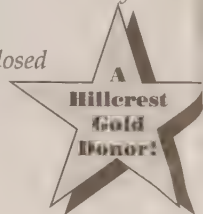


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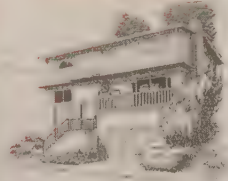
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April 6, 2-4:30

FEATURED PROPERTY



JUST LISTED \$349,000
Fabulous stainless steel gourmet kitchen and lovely hardwood floors grace this special home. Large back yard, lots of big closets and attached two-car garage.
3568 Davis Street, Oakland
PatriciaBennett.com (510) 339-8400

Open Sunday
April 6, 2-4:30



UPPER OAKMORE \$679,000
Spacious & sunny updated contemporary with view of the Bay, bridges. 4BR/2.5 BA. Immaculate condition. Close to schools, transportation, park, village.
4390 Bridgeview, Oakland
Martha Shin (510) 339-8400

SPACIOUS 6 BEDROOM HOUSE \$599,000
Perfect house for large or extended family. Located on quiet cul-de-sac. Large family room, new hardwood floors & 2 fireplaces.
16 Maydon Court, Golf Links
Nanette Watson (510) 339-4000

Open Sunday
April 6, 2-4:30



UNEXPECTED PLEASURES \$499,950
Open the wooden gate to find a private Montclair hideaway. Be charmed by this 1950's contemporary built on a level lot with light & space all around. 3BR/2BA with surprising extras: an atrium & separate studio too!
7021 Saroni Drive, Montclair
Seki Chikami (510) 339-4000

Open Sunday
April 6, 2-4:30



MONTCLAIR'S BEST BUY \$418,000
2BR/1BA plus in-law contemporary among \$500K+ homes best location. Bring your contractors. Garage. Pest \$36,000. Could be a beauty fixed up. 6676 Pineneedle, Montclair
Teresa Chan (510) 339-8400

PRESTIGIOUS PARKWOOD CONDO \$349,500
This exceptionally located "Carmel" model offers 2 spacious BR suites each w/ its own BA, balcony and "walk-in" closet. Open living room/dining area w/ gas fireplace & views of greenery. Pool, gym, parking. Easy commute. 260 Caldecott Lane #217, North Oakland
Mary Jane McConville (510) 339-8400

CHINA HILL BUNGALOW \$348,000
2+BR/1BA near lake. Garage. Close to shops & transportation. Best value for location. Needs TLC. Pest \$7,930. Seller motivated.
2707 Park Boulevard, China Hill
Teresa Chan (510) 339-8400

NESTLED IN HILLTOP COMMUNITY \$209,950
Loft-style townhome nestled against hills. Country feeling, vaulted ceilings, fireplace, tiled kit/bath, large MB suite + loft, patio, floor-to-ceiling windows. Walk to shops/restaurants. 3766 Stoneglen North, Richmond
Sherdella Sims (510) 339-4000

By Appointment

PARK LIKE SETTING \$519,000
Crocker Highlands bungalow on large lot that opens to park. Charming & bright. Hdwd floors, "Bristle" kit, 2 BR, office, formal dining & living rooms. Walk to coffee shops, movie & lake.
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By Appointment

DON'T MISS OPPORTUNITY TO LIVE WORK IN THE SAME BUILDING \$1,000,000
Just think of cutting your commute by the penthouse & walking downstairs office. This unique building has 4 offices & a studio on 1st floor. 2nd floor 4 vacant offices & a studio apt. 3rd floor penthouse loft w/ views of SF, GG & Cottage in rear, large lot w/ plenty street parking for clients. Ideal for law, or chiropractic offices.
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A PRIVATE PLACE \$999,000
Don't miss this 3BR/2BA enchanting situated off a quiet road, yet everything. Entertain on the front redwood deck in the back, or hide your private lower level MSTR BR w/ bath. Warm living room has skylight. & large wood bay windows, hdwd. Gorgeous kitchen w/ slab granite counter.
Nahid Nassiri (510) 339-8400

ARTS & CRAFTS DETAILS... \$499,000
...throughout this sensational. Meticulously maintained 2BR/1BA on open floor plan, hdwd floors, wood windows, views. Lg. level patio, beautiful kit w/ mahogany breakfast laundry, garage w/ workshop. Walk to VTA.
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MILLSMONT CHARMER \$299,000
Beautiful hardwood floors, formal dining paint, separate laundry, renovated kitchen. Best price in the area!
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TIERED OF RENT CONTROL? \$299,000
3 one-bedroom units on a corner lot street parking. Rents can be raised. Investment property. Good tenants. Move in. Bring all offers!
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STROLL TO EVERYTHING... \$599,000
...from this very special 1BR/1BA located near Piedmont Avenue's cafes & movies. Prop up your feet on the balconies & enjoy the panoramic view. Secured Parking.
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NEW LISTING! \$1,095,000
BRAND NEW MEDITERRANEAN VILLA. Be the first to own this grand 4BR/3.5BA villa located on an 8,000+ sq ft lot w/ canyon views. The design blends sophistication & comfort, while employing the finest craftsmanship, materials & fixtures available. Very Private. 7967 Skyline Blvd., Montclair
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UPPER ROCKRIDGE TRADITIONAL \$795,000
Updated 3+BD/2BA home with San Francisco Bay view. Freshly painted and gleaming refinished hardwood floors. Spacious rooms with plenty of light. Move right in! 5227 Masonic Avenue, Upper Rockridge
Michael Thompson (510) 339-8400

WALK TO EVERYTHING \$595,000
Handsome new listing! One-of-a-kind 2BR/2BA home w/ distinctive details. Vaulted, woodbeam ceiling, hardwood floors & more. New paint, eat-in kit, formal dining room, level backyard, garage, plus 1BR/1BA cottage w/ skylights. 1306 Cornell Avenue, Berkeley
Nahid Nassiri (510) 339-8400

ROCKRIDGE CHARMER \$525,000
If you treasure tradition, you'll enjoy this sunny split-level two-plus bedroom home. Relax by the fireplace. Enjoy the pretty garden. Breakfast room, hardwood floors, bonus room. BART and shopping nearby. 5346 Broadway, Upper Rockridge
Mary Jane McConville (510) 339-8400

NEW LISTING! \$435,000
Friendly Laurel neighborhood. Built in 1925, this 2BR/2BA bungalow features delightful architectural details throughout the expansive sunny living & formal dining rooms. Updated baths. Hardwood floors. Restful front patio has peek of Bay view. Private level backyard. Garage w/ storage & long driveway. 3142 Arizona Street, Laurel District
Nahid Nassiri (510) 339-8400

EXTRAORDINARY VALUE \$399,000
Don't miss the irresistible blend of traditional charm & selective updates in this unusual split-level 3-bedroom home at the Emeryville corridor. Convenient to Powell Street Plaza and new Bay Street shops. 5901 San Pablo Avenue, Oakland
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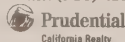
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1624 Jaynes Street, Berkeley

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184 SANTA CLARA AVE., OAKLAND.
BUNGALOW HOME WITH
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hardwood floors, 1 car detached garage.
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hardwood floors, plantation shutters in
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landscaped yard. Plus room ideal for au pair!
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655 DEAN ST., #518, OAKLAND. STUDIO
CONDO IN ADAMS POINT. Great location
in prime lake area, close to shopping &
entertainment. End unit with balcony, new
carpet & in excellent condition. A Must See!
\$192,000. Kathy Ghosh, 510-748-1124

1000 NEVILL ST., OAKLAND. TOUR AT
1000NEVILL.COM. Charming large 1
bedroom home with original wood detail, formal
living & beautiful hardwood floors.
\$149,000. Kellee McDonald, Honesty &
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European Estate with Adjacent Buildable Lot 6042 Manchester Drive – Upper Rockridge



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NEW LISTING



201 Greenbank Avenue, Piedmont

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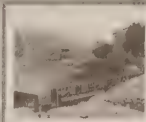
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Berkeley

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\$459,000



Richmond

Great price for a 3 bed/1 bath home on big lot. New carpet, remodeled kitchen and bath, new paint, extra "all season" room. Off street driveway parking for 2 cars.

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6556 Dawes, Piedmont Side of Montclair

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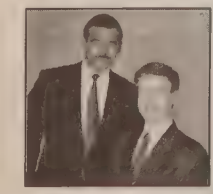
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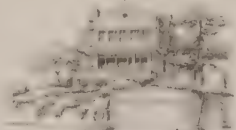
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PIEDMONT - OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30



18 MONTE AVENUE \$1,695,000
Very handsome brown shingle on a wonderful tree-lined street. Beautiful garden & patio. 4+ BR & rumpus room. Wonderful formal rooms for entertaining. Enjoy the city vistas.
Jean Simmons



101 NOVA DRIVE \$889,000
This charming home has gracious formal rooms w/ large windows & fabulous moldings, a sunny kitchen, breakfast room, 3BR/1.5BA, garden and an incredible plus space just waiting to be developed.
Mindy Scott

38 YORK DRIVE \$839,000
Charm & character, 4BR/2.5BA, hardwood floors, plantation shutters. Tastefully updated kitchen opens level to the back garden for easy outdoor living. Near Dracena Park.
Judith Cain

201 GREENBANK AVE \$829,000
Lovely Piedmont traditional with gumwood built-ins and hardwood floors. 3BR/2BA with spacious master suite, large kitchen and more.
Angela Grubb

PIEDMONT - BY APPOINTMENT



PIEDMONT ESTATE \$3,995,000
Gorgeous Albert Farr designed estate Magnificently maintained w/ beautiful woods & architectural details. 6BR, stunning garden & glamorous pool.
Anian Pettit Tunney

HIDDEN ESTATE \$2,900,000
This glamorous estate on almost one acre has been recently restored and includes an English guest cottage & beautiful black bottom pool.
Anian Pettit Tunney

PIEDMONT TRADITIONAL \$918,000
A charming traditional home with matchstick hardwood floors. 4BR/2BA up, huge deck area, expansion potential and views. Imagine the possibilities!
Mavis Delacroix

WILDWOOD SCHOOL \$825,000
Adorable 3BR/2BA w/hardwood floors throughout, new kitchen, family room and level garden w/play area. Extensively updated & redesigned.
Nancy Lehrkind

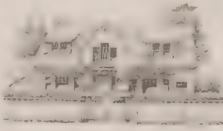
CHARMING PIEDMONT \$699,000
Picture yourself in this charming garden cottage located close to schools, transportation & shops. Enjoy hill views from the redwood deck or hot tub.
Mavis Delacroix

BERKELEY & ALBANY - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30



1512 WEST VIEW DRIVE \$1,495,000
Fabulous traditional in the desirable Claremont neighborhood. 4+BR/4+BA, kitchen/family room, luminous living room, den, decks & patio - perfect for entertaining. Stunning SF Bay views.
Karen Starr

41 ALVARADO ROAD \$1,250,000
Beautiful Tudor (circa 1922) Original panelling & woodwork! T. Church gardens! Prestigious & convenient location! 3++ BR/4BA.
Bebe McRae



2745 PARKER STREET \$749,500
Brown shingle. 3+BR/2+BA. Alluring detail. Exquisite restoration. Gourmet kitchen! Den, FR area! Lush & private garden. Entertainment deck w/ hot tub. Near UC, College Ave. shops & Rockridge BART.
Chris Cohn

945 HILDALE AVENUE \$735,000
Commanding Bay, SF & bridge views. Fantastic condition - fully remodeled! Chef's kitchen. 3BR/3BA, den, workshop. Convenient to UC.
Lori Lombardo



1624 JAYNES STREET \$525,000
Very special Mediterranean in a great North Berkeley location. Remodeled kitchen and baths. Lovely small and private garden. Sweet!
Faye Keogh

1124 TALBOT AVENUE \$485,000
ALBANY. Farmhouse charm with a fresh feeling! Move-in condition and very special! 2BR/2BA, formal dining room, fenced garden. Close to shops & BART. Great school district!
Bebe McRae

OAKLAND - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30



6031 SKYLINE BLVD \$2,498,000
Open 2-Sunset. New unrivaled Mediterranean Villa w/ incredible view of the Bay, Bridges & SF. Media room, elevator, heated bathroom floors. Cobblestones, flagstone courtyard & terraces. Pizza oven.
Debra J. Dryden

10 DOROTHY PLACE \$1,549,000
Stylish contemporary Craftsman w/classic floorplan, approx 3558 sq. ft. & 6BR/4BA. Located on a quiet cul-de-sac w/Bay views, stunning master suite, state-of-the-art kitchen & family room.
Dana Cohen

5016 COCHRANE AVE \$1,475,000
This home sits on a beautiful parcel of land with expansive gardens & lush landscaping. 4BR/3BA including a large master, kitchen/family room, hardwood floors & north bay views.
Kurt Buchholz

996 GROSVENOR PLACE \$1,250,000
Gorgeous & stately Mediterranean. 5BR/3BA. Beautifully updated for today's most gracious lifestyle w/handsome kitchen/family room, perfectly restored period details & solarium.
Nancy Lehrkind

13735 SKYLINE BLVD \$1,249,000
1.4 usable acres w/South Bay views. Updated kitchen w/granite counters, formal dining room, family room, pool, wine cellar, gorgeous land and setting w/ endless possibilities.
K. Buchholz & J. Simmons

6556 DAWES \$1,175,000
This charming 3+BR/3BA Dutch colonial home on over 1/4 acres w/Bay views is close to Montclair Village. A classic floor plan w/formal dining room, spacious living room & luxurious master suite.
Dana Cohen

6960 NORFOLK ROAD \$995,000
New Price! 4BR/4.5BA. New Tuscan. Villa in the hills with Bay views! Perfect for entertaining with a private courtyard. Three fireplaces, two master suites and three large decks.
Jill Carrigan

51 BAY FOREST DRIVE \$890,000
Elegant view home - luxurious & dramatic. Sleek kitchen/family room. Master suite w/sitting room. Private guest room. Great quiet cul-de-sac location.
Sandra Vogl

1085 SILER PLACE \$849,000
Located on a quiet cul-de-sac, this dramatic contemporary home features 3BR/2.5BA, den, office and views of the adjacent wooded preserve. Sophisticated and immaculate.
Susanne Paul

5955 GIRVIN DRIVE \$829,000
Dramatic Montclair contemporary w/bridge & canyon views. Large lot. 4BR/3.5BA w/two master suites. Vaulted ceilings and fireplace in the living room. Master bedroom w/fireplace.
Angela Wei Grubb

4301 BRIDGEVIEW DRIVE \$799,000
Lovely and spacious Monterey colonial. Parquet floors, 2 fireplaces, updated kitchen w/breakfast room, rumpus room & complete in-law w/separate entry. Great architectural details.
Bettina Balestrieri

4425 ARCADIA AVENUE \$769,000
A custom home in the desirable upper Oakmore neighborhood set amongst the trees. The peaceful retreat offers dramatic Bay views. Sunny gourmet kitchen. 2 master suite w/deck.
Jill Carrigan

39 BOWLES PLACE \$750,000
Enchanting upper Crocker Highlands English in great condition. Living room with fireplace, 3BR/2BA, including private master suite, updated kitchen, recreation room, patio & garden.
Angela Wei Grubb

6314 BROADWAY TERR \$719,000
This delightful Upper Rockridge traditional is located in the Hillcrest School District near shops, restaurants & parks. This home boasts mature front garden w/flagstone entry, 3BR and a chef's kitchen.
Debbi DiMaggio

4 BOWLES PLACE \$699,000
Normandy style home on a large lot. 3BR/2.5BA, living room w/ floor to ceiling arched windows, formal dining room, new kitchen, hardwood floors, office/plus room down. Decks & terraced garden.
Kurt Buchholz

6035 CHABOLYN TERRACE \$699,000
Views of the Bay and downtown Oakland! 3BR/2BA, office & recreation room. Generous patio and decks, perfect for outdoor entertaining. Popular Rockridge location.
Wendy Sprague

5215 LOCKSLEY AVENUE \$699,000
Two houses on one lot. Large 2BR/1BA w/beautiful hardwood floors, formal dining room, living room w/ fireplace & large kitchen. Back house 1BR/1BA. 2-car garage. Full basement.
Carolyn Jones

5601 BALMORAL DRIVE \$689,000
Beautiful lot. Over an acre of usable land completely fenced. Level home w/3BR/2.5BA including master suite. Living room w/ fireplace, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen. Lovely setting.
Anne Feste

1206 TRESTLE GLEN RD \$680,000
Wonderful Crocker Highlands Tudor. Enjoy the cozy fireplace in the living room, lovely hardwood floors & balcony off the master bedroom. A sunny updated kitchen awaits your culinary talents. Garden.
Anian Pettit Tunney

4106 LAKESHORE AVE \$659,000
Very special Crocker Highlands 3BR home w/hardwood floors, lovely formal rooms, breakfast room off kitchen, full height art. Near shops & transportation.
Linda McClain

101 GLEN EDEN AVENUE \$599,000
Sited on a large level corner lot, this traditional home, constructed in 1940 offers peg & groove hardwood floors, lovely windows & a private, secluded garden. Close to coffee & shops.
Sheila Gallagher

1908 CLEMENS ROAD \$539,000
Light-filled view home in the Oakmore neighborhood. Lovingly maintained. Gleaming hardwood floors. Bay view! Gorgeous patio & garden for entertaining.
2BR/1BA & rumpus or "plus" room.
Tricia Swift

1002 EVERETT AVENUE \$460,000
Wonderful 2BR/1BA bungalow w/hardwood floors. Living room w/fireplace & French doors out to a covered porch. Eat-in kitchen & remodeled bath.
Kurt Buchholz

1335 BATES ROAD \$459,000
Adorable Crocker Highlands Tudor, updated with style. 2BR/1BA, country kitchen, formal living and dining rooms, hardwood floors and cozy garden.
Steve Michaelides

3512 VICTOR AVENUE \$449,000
Adorable 2BR Spanish bungalow. Sunny spacious room. Beautifully landscaped urban gardens & patio. Redwood Heights School.
Donna DeBardi

OAKLAND, BERKELEY, ORINDA & EL CERRITO - BY APPOINTMENT

LASALLE ESTATES \$2,988,000
Under construction with completion in June. Approx. 6000 sq. ft. of luxury. Private road w/plans for gating. 3-car garage. Elevator. Lavish master suite.
Debra J. Dryden

HILLCREST ESTATES \$2,379,000
A rare gated compound on 3.2 acres w/spectacular views, 6 horse barn, 4BR including 2 suites and state-of-the-art kitchen w/island.
Kurt Buchholz

CLAREMONT HILLS \$1,975,000
Spacious, stunning & innovative contemporary in the Claremont Hills. Beautiful Bay & city views! Expansive lot. 5BR/3.5BA, family room, guest suite, aupair! Helene Barkin

ORINDA OASIS \$1,895,000
ORINDA. Designer Showcase. Gated 1/2 acre. 4BR/5.5BA, lap pool, spa, sauna, gym, media room & office. Close to Tilden Park & easy commute to SF.
Bebe McRae

CLAREMONT \$1,250,000
BERKELEY. J.H. Thomas designed home in the prestigious Claremont neighborhood. 3++ BR/2BA. Formal dining room & eat-in kitchen. Bright & beautiful Bebe McRae

UNIQUE & STYLISH \$1,225,000
Bold contemporary in the Claremont Hills. 2 years old w/South Bay views & chef's kitchen. Ideal master retreat, lovely family room w/fireplace.
Carolyn Jones

HILLER HIGHLANDS \$1,150,000
Enjoy this wonderful spectacular home! Gracious open living, dining kitchen and family rooms. 5BR/4.5BA and a fabulous rumpus room.
Mindy Scott

SPECTACULAR VIEWS! \$1,095,000
The open floor plan, soaring ceilings & spectacular city views, make this a special place to entertain. 4BR/2.5BA, sun room & space galore.
Mindy Scott

CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$995,000
Fabulous Crocker Highlands traditional updated w/ style & flair. Amazing kitchen/family room, spacious 3BR/3BA, level garden & 2-car garage.
Judith Cain

PRIVATE SETTING \$899,000
This fabulous 4BR/3BA home features breathtaking serene views in a private setting, landscaped grounds, family room & spacious master suite.
Sherry Benninger

ELEGANT BERKELEY \$850,000
BERKELEY. Very elegant one-level living on a quiet cul-de-sac w/Bay views, 2BR/2BA, library, private garden. A rare opportunity!
Bebe McRae

HISTORIC N. BERKELEY \$850,000
BERKELEY. Historic home in N. Berkeley (circa 1932). 5BR/3.5BA, glorious vistas & a large landscaped garden. Lower floor could be in-law apt.
Susie Schevill

ELMWOOD CRAFTSMAN \$795,000
BERKELEY. Very special Elmwood Craftsman home. Stylish and spacious. 2++BR/2.5BA. Solarium, office, study. Great location.
Faye Keogh

BROADWAY TERRACE \$705,000
Elegant & stylish 2BR/2.5BA condominium near Rockridge & BART. Spacious living room, formal dining room, office space & views.
Nancy Lehrkind

TRADITIONAL WITH A VIEW \$699,000
Stunning traditional w/sunny rooms & views of the city. Brick patios & garden, hardwood floors, new appliances & rumpus room.
Anian Pettit Tunney

GLENVIEW CRAFTSMAN \$550,000
Beautiful Craftsman! New baths & kitchen! Original built-ins. 3BR/2BA, study, exercise room, formal dining room & garden. Close to shops & transportation.
Bebe McRae

NORTH BERKELEY \$525,000
BERKELEY. Lovely light-filled 3BR/1BA. Deck off kitchen. Level garden. Close to Monterey Market, BART, shops and transportation.
Anne Van Dyke

RESTORED VICTORIAN \$519,000
Utterly charming 2-story Victorian, restored throughout. 2BR/1.5BA, large garden, basement, parking. Great location & great style.
Katherine Cooper

CHARMING & PRIVATE \$415,000
EL CERRITO. Charming, private level living! This impeccable 2BR home w/wonderful garden & attached garage is near Fat Apple's & BART.
Bebe McRae

ADAMS POINT \$205,000
Spacious rooms with lots of light in this Adams Point condominium. Extra large back patio. New stainless steel appliances in the kitchen.
Wendy Sprague

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BERKELEY, 94705

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NORTH BERKELEY \$1,950,000
1705 LA LOMA AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
 Magnificent chalet on large site just north of UC. Hargreaves & Maybeck, 1906; BAHA Restoration award, 1991. Glorious kitchen; second unit. Jack McPhail x1336



BERKELEY \$1,449,000
2950 AVALON AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
 New listing! Beautifully restored Claremont traditional with much architectural detail. Updated kitchen and baths, 4 fireplaces 3+BR/3.5BA. Mary Montali x1350



MONTCLAIR \$1,445,000
6300 FAIRLANE DR. (Open 2-5)
 New listing! Grand & gracious Mediterranean on broad knoll w/spectacular panoramic views. 4BR/4.5BA, study, family & playrooms, 3 car garage. Gini Erck x1339

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$1,395,000
6138 OCEAN VIEW DR. (Open 2-4:30)
 Distinctive custom Craftsman. 3+BR/2.5BA gourmet kitchen, cherry floors, lovely patio, level yard, excellent location. Rosalie Woods x1324

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$1,295,000
6117 BUENA VISTA AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
 Stately Mediterranean style home with sweeping SF/bay views. 4+BR/2.5BA, den and chef's kitchen. Ashley O'Neill x1368

OAKLAND HILLS \$1,125,000
3237 BURDECK DR. (Open 2-4:30)
 4BR/3BA. 1-yr old custom designed home. Bay & bridge views. Library/office, 2 fireplaces, custom iron work. Dee Knowland x1318

MONTCLAIR \$1,099,000
1225 MOUNTAIN BLVD. (Open 2-4:30)
 Stylish new home w/high ceilings, cherry floors & artistic stonework. Large family room opens to garden. Close to Montclair Village. 4BR/3.5BA. Bonnie Hirsch x1337

MONTCLAIR \$950,000
6069 FAIRLANE DR. (Open 2-4:30)
 Custom built in 1994 w/ideal floor plan. Hardwood floors, loads of windows, Bay views & beautiful level yard. 4BR/3BA with family room. Nancy Moore x1302

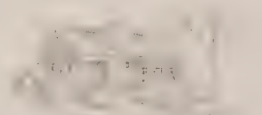
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PIEDMONT \$935,000
10 ABBOTT WAY (Open 2-4:30)
 New listing! Expansive SF/Bay views, private setting: 3+BR/2.5BA, updated kitchen, den, gardens. Beautiful! Georgia Cornell x1325



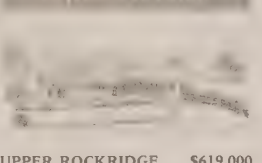
BERKELEY \$925,000
2806 PRINCE ST. (Open 2-4:30)
 Beautiful one-level Craftsman in Claremont area. Architectural details. Fabulous remodeled kitchen. French doors to deck & garden. 3BR/2BA. Joanna Hirsch x1366

MONTCLAIR \$899,000
7455 WOODROW DR. (Open 2-4:30)
 Near Montclair Village. Stunning 2 yr. old home w/impeccable interior finishes & enchanting outdoor spaces. 3+BR/2.5BA, family & rumpus room. Nancy Moore x1302

OAKLAND HILLS \$875,000
1830 GRAND VIEW DR. (Open 2-4)
 Stunning Bay Views! Sophisticated tri-level 1994 craftsman. Master w/fireplace; loft family room/office, guest room. Extensive 'plus' areas & storage. Jeanine Weller x1329

UPPER OAKMORE \$699,000
2134 BRAEMAR RD. (Open 2-4:30)
 New listing! Spacious traditional on quiet cul-de-sac w/hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, family room, bonus room & level yard 3BR/3BA. Michelle Vasey x1359

Open Sunday



UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$619,000
5 BUENA VISTA PL. (Open 2-4:30)
 New listing! Bay views, 3BR/2BA, fenced level yard, hot tub and new kitchen. Wendy Gardner x1303

GLENVIEW \$539,000
3736 ARDLEY AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
 Beautiful Craftsman with gumwood details. Fabulous remodeled kitchen. Built-ins, fireplace, level yard. 2+BR/1BA Nancy Noman x1373

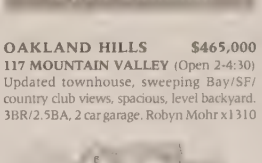
BERKELEY \$537,000
2430 5TH ST., UNIT 1 (Open 2-4:30)
 New listing! Spacious light-filled wonderful live/work space w/SF view! Live up, work down or live in both! 1+BR/2BA. Near 4th St. shopping. Rich Gould x1347



CRESTMONT \$499,000
255 CRESTMONT DR. (Open 2-4:30)
 New listing! Classic Ranch home offers level living & South Bay views. Kitchen, family, dining rm combination opens to private deck & garden. 3BR/BA. Helen Danahall x1356

PIEDMONT AVE. \$474,000
4364-66 MONTGOMERY (Open 2-4:30)
 New listing! Vacant duplex near shops. Live in one, rent the other. 2 bedrooms each. Big level yard & hill views. Leslie Easterday x1363

Open Sunday



OAKLAND HILLS \$465,000
117 MOUNTAIN VALLEY (Open 2-4:30)
 Updated townhouse, sweeping Bay/SF/country club views, spacious, level backyard. 3BR/2.5BA, 2 car garage. Robyn Mohr x1310



MAXWELL PARK \$399,000
4701 MELDON AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
 Elegant & sophisticated light filled home on storybook street. 2+BR/1BA, french doors, hardwood floors, large yard & hot tub. Joan Dark x1316

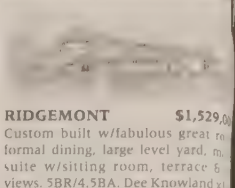
OAKLAND HILLS \$379,000
7530 VALENTINE ST. (Open 2-5)
 Artist's delight! Bright, charming 2BR/1BA bungalow w/detached workshop/studio, eat-in kitchen, great remodeled bath & lovely yard. Vicki Woodhead x1334

BERKELEY \$359,000
2725 PRINCE ST. #6 (Open 2-4:30)
 Light and bright one plus bedroom, one bath choice unit. Stained glass. Blocks to College Ave. Joanna Gould x1346

SAN LEANDRO \$359,000
82 CORNWALL WAY (Open 1-4)
 New listing! Feels like a house! Sunny 2BR/1+BA, great outside spaces, eat-in kitchen, vaulted ceiling. Attached garage. Michelle Miller x1335

ALAMEDA \$299,000
960 SHOREPOINT CT. #220 (Open 2-4)
 Resort living! Spacious updated 2BR/2BA condo. Sunny balcony w/partial bay view. Pool. 1 block to beach & park. Gorgeous. Fritz Hochfeller x1348

in Appointments



RIDGEMONT \$1,529,000
 Custom built w/fabulous great formal dining, large level yard, m. suite w/sitting room, terrace & views. 5BR/4.5BA. Dee Knowland x1336

MONTCLAIR \$1,425,000
 Prestigious 7-year-old home set on private knoll with top-of-the-world SF/bay views. Terraces, gardens, and lawns. 4BR/3+BA. Teri Carlisle x1336

CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$1,200,000
 sq. ft.; gorgeous formal rooms; sun home office; recreation/rumpus room. Jeffrey Himmel x1307

NORTH BERKELEY \$985,000
 Magical architecture and glorious views. Site includes extra lot. Gini Erck x1339

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$949,000
 Bay view lot, privacy. Approx. 12,800 square feet. One mile walk to BART. David Ichikawa x1336

MONTCLAIR \$603,000
 Level in contemporary with 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, family rooms, soaring ceilings and 2 fireplaces. Kathy Flynn x1317

OAKLAND HILLS \$579,000
 Panoramic bay view, 3 levels, 4BR/3 family room, rumpus, 2 car attached garage, approx. 2500 sq. ft. Master suite & level yard. Kathy Flynn x1317

OAKLAND HILLS \$419,000
 Next to the Zoo. 3BR/2.5BA, family room, downstairs rumpus room, level backyard & 2 car attached garage. Kathy Flynn x1317

UPPER LAUREL \$319,000
 Charming bungalow. 2BR/1BA eat-in kitchen, separate laundry room, small backyard & many improvements. Kathy Flynn x1317

CROCKER HIGHLANDS
 Beautiful 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath traditional w/family room, office, bonus room & landscaped lot. Kathleen Callahan x1336

DIMOND \$459,000
 Sunny bungalow w/many period details. Pristine condition. Remodeled kitchen, 1st floor level yard & deck! 2BR/1BA. St. Klemmer x1314 & Dick Cohen x1308

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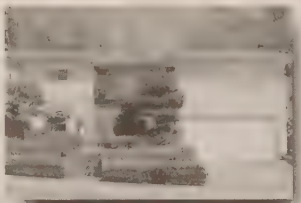
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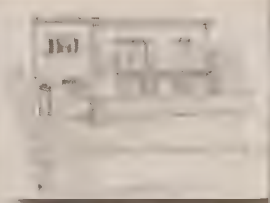
BERKELEY - NEW LISTING! \$409,000
 3+1 - Charming, spacious house with tremendous potential. Family room, deck. Close to UC Berkeley and BART.
 1545 Parker Street Open 2-4



ALBANY \$449,000
 2+1 - Split-level Mediterranean with original details off Solano Avenue. Bonus room could be 3rd bedroom. Level yard & more.
 806 Curtis Street Open 1-4



EL CERRITO - NEW LISTING! \$649,000
 4/3 - Well-maintained large home with Bay Views. Downstairs family room. Close to BART & El Cerrito Plaza.
 412 Seaview Drive Open 2-4



OAKLAND - NEW LISTING! \$299,000
 3/2 - Great Oakmore fixer with 1 bed/1 bath in-law unit. Many possibilities for the occupant or investor.
 3916 Whittie Avenue Open 2-4



BERKELEY \$999,000
 3/2 - Unique Contemporary. Spectacular panoramic Bay views from every window. Serene garden settings. Close to UC & Gourmet Ghetto.
 987 Euclid Avenue Open 2-4:30



BERKELEY \$479,000
 2+1 - Charming, sunny, bright home. Eat-in space in updated kitchen. Plus room in lovely, private garden for office or study. More!
 1835 Channing Way Open 2-4:30



SAN PABLO - NEW LISTING! \$299,000
 3/1 - Sun-filled home in Tara Hills. Beautiful hardwood floors. Big living room & country kitchen. Large yard, fruit trees. 1-car garage. New windows.
 2597 O'Harte Road Open 2-4



OAKLAND \$689,000
 4/2.5 - Brand new construction. Bay views, living & dining rooms. Beautiful features: tile, marble counters. Quality craftsmanship.
 2811 Steinmetz Way Open 2-4



BERKELEY \$939,000
 3+1/2 - Marvellous Mediterranean! Sophisticated, recently remodeled with quality finishes. Gourmet kitchen, SF views, in-law possibility, more!
 711 Spruce Street Open 2-4



BERKELEY/CLAREMONT \$659,000
 3/2 - Wonderful Tudor! Architect designed master bedroom suite, hardwood floors, fireplace. Great location close to College Ave & UC.
 110 Brookside Drive Open 2-4



OAKLAND \$229,000
 1/1 - Jazzy 840 sq.ft. loft in historic complex with built-out mezzanine, skylights, vaulted ceilings & more! www.sagarabedian.com
 730 29th Street #C11 Open 2-4



OAKLAND \$225,000
 1/1 - Rockridge border. Clean condo newly modeled with large, private patio & complete pool, spa, laundry and garage.
 250 Whitmore Street #111 Open 2-4

BERKELEY \$419,000
 2/1 - Beautiful 1910 brown shingle condo. Original details, formal dining room with built-ins, large eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors throughout. 2733 1/2 Fulton Street Open 2-4

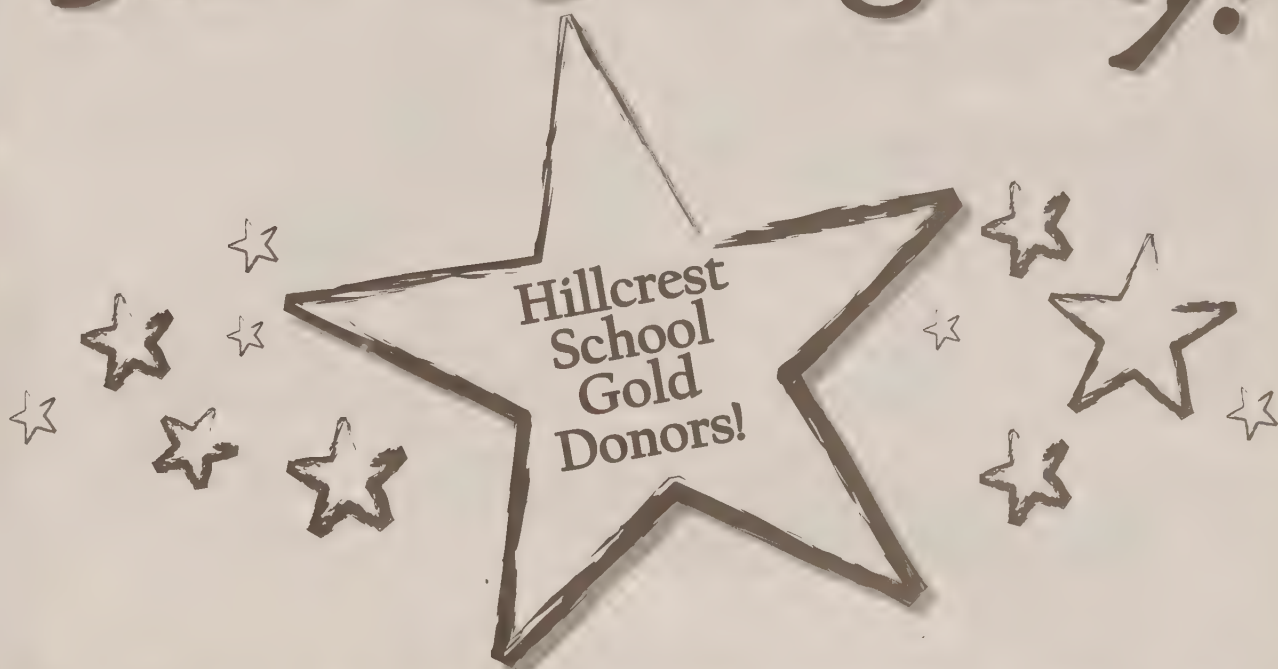
MARTINEZ - LAND \$2,700,000
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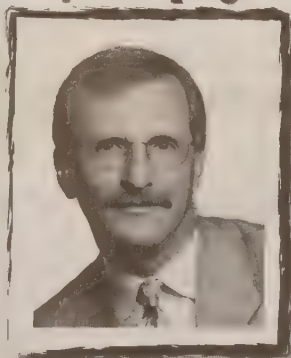
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2099 Pleasant Valley, Oakland, CA 94612
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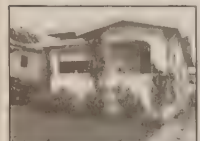
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Single level Craftsman in the Wellington District! 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, great living room & formal dining room. Long driveway for off street parking. A super yard for entertaining! Walk to shops.

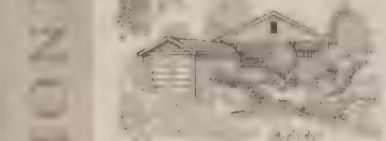
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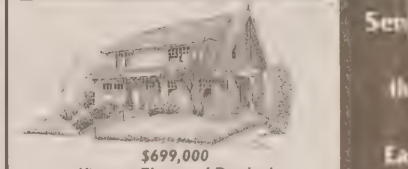
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17040 Esteban Street, Hayward \$410,000
3 bdrms, 3 full baths, hardwood floors, separate in-law suite
w/bath, fully landscaped, stainless steel kitchen



3272 Plainer, Oakland \$450,000
ABOVE THE REST! 3BD, 2BA, rare mst bdrm ste, covered patio,
fully landscaped, maple cabinetry, lg eat-in kit, beautiful hwd flrs



3 Woodard Dr., Moraga \$610,000
Lovely 4BD, 2BA Tahoe style home, beautiful hwd flrs,
expanded fm. rm, w/wel bar, pool/spa.



2558 55th Ave., Oakland \$399,950
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master bedroom w/retreat. Custom window coverings.



558 Hayes St., Richmond \$399,000
Nice split level property, spacious 3 bedrooms with 2 baths;
downstairs in-law unit; beautiful hardwood floors, huge lot

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COMPANY	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Comments
First Blackhawk Financial 925-648-3039 DRE#01144055 Fees=\$2006	30-yr Fixed 5.625...0.000 5.710...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...0.125 5.800...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.750...0.000 4.780...30	7/1 ARM Jumbo 5.125...0.000 5.150...30	Jumbo & super Jumbo Specialist Mary L 3/1 Jumbo - 4.00 125 pt 4 04 apr 30 day 15 yr Jumbo 5 25 0 pt 5 28 apr 30 day
Golden Horizon Mortgage 877-414-8280 DRE#01318954 Fees=\$1939	30-yr Fixed 5.625...0.000 5.704...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.174...30	15-yr Fixed 4.875...0.000 4.948...30	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.375...0.000 5.419...30	Open weekends. Stated income, cash out, Fast approval, Lock rates today, call or Apply on line at www.callfirstending.com
Imperial Mortgage 800-961-2274 DRE#01033992 Fees=\$1453	30-yr Fixed 5.375...1.000 5.551...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.625...1.000 6.753...30	15-yr Fixed 4.625...1.000 4.198...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.375...1.000 4.494...30	Don't get lured-in by low, low Quotes! Call me for an honest, lockable rate! In-home apprais, or Imperial-mortgage.net
Lenders Northstar Mtg Grp 925-284-3960 DRE#01345744 Fees=\$2224	30-yr Fixed 5.375...1.375 5.587...45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...0.875 5.995...45	15-yr Fixed 4.750...0.750 5.012...45	1-yr ARM Jumbo 2.500...1.000 4.745...45	Call or apply on the WWW.NSMLANS.COM No cost preapproval, credit issues, 100% Purchases-Located in Lafayette, CA
Matrix Investment Corp. 800-366-8916 DRE#0130418 Fees=\$2416	30-yr Fixed 5.000...1.990 5.241...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.375...1.500 5.487...30	15-yr Fixed 4.250...1.750 4.696...30	30-yr Fixed 0 Pts 5.375...0.000 5.481...30	Good & bad credit considered Brokers welcome! Visit us at www.matrixinvestmentcorp.com
Mortgage Market 800-837-5626 DRE#0087562 Fees=\$1876	30-yr Fixed 5.625...0.000 5.716...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.875...0.000 5.967...30	15-yr Fixed 4.875...0.000 5.026...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.625...0.000 4.711...30	Credit problems, bankruptcy, difficult loans our specialty. all gov't loans, 100% loans, credit lines, construction
Northern Mutual Corp. 888-441-2600 DRE#01243681 Fees=\$2648	30-yr Fixed call ... call ...	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call ... call ...	20-yr Fxd Jumbo call ... call ...	5/1 ARM 4.125...1.500 4.332...30	WOW!! Look at our Jumbo int. rates! We guarantee closing costs won't incr. at closing. E-mail Steve@northernmutual.com
Omni Funding Services 800-303-8887 DRE#01183856 Fees=\$2051	30-yr Fixed 5.375...1.500 5.598...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.750...1.500 5.842...30	15-yr Fixed 4.875...1.500 5.092...30	5/1 ARM 4.125...1.500 4.332...30	-www.24hourloancenter.com Check out our web site for more rates! We are committed to EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE!
Pacific West Financial 800-798-7334 DRE#01124581 Fees=\$1694	30-yr Fixed 5.625...0.000 5.729...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.750...0.000 5.796...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.625...0.000 4.687...30	3/1 ARM 3.750...0.000 3.844...30	Se Habla Espanol. 100% purchase loans Credit Problems OK
Premier Mortgage Group 888-369-6633 DRE#0130398 Fees=\$1992	30-yr Fixed 5.375...0.000 5.419...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...0.000 5.773...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.375...0.000 4.154...30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 3.750...0.000 3.963...30	Get rates online at www.pmgmortgage.com Now open Saturdays 9-3, evenings until 8:00 pm. Purchases may be 1/8% lower
ProMortgage 877-652-2700 DRE#01230152 Fees=\$1861	30-yr Fixed 5.675...0.000 5.948...45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...0.000 6.072...45	15-yr Fixed 5.375...0.000 5.428...45	5/1 Interest Only 4.875...0.000 4.904...60	Rates Are Going Up! Lock In Today's Low Rates Now Call David Harley - Local Lender
Saratoga Bancorp 800-935-6266 DRE#01220328 Fees=\$1893	30-yr Fixed 5.500...0.000 5.560...45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...0.000 5.770...45	15-yr Fixed 4.750...0.000 4.820...45	5/1 ARM 4.500...0.000 4.090...45	No Income Check Loans Available Less than Perfect Credit? No Upfront Fees. Saratogabancorp.com
A American Resid. Lend. 800-568-9470 DRE#0130340 Fees=\$1624	30-yr Fixed 5.375...0.000 5.390...45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.500...0.000 5.590...45	15-yr Fixed 4.625...0.000 4.680...45	15-yr ARM Jumbo 5.500...0.000 5.590...45	Refi, purchase or consolidate now! Free Approval No Doc Loans M-F 7:00-8:00 Sat-Sun 7:00-5:00
A Better Mortgage 800-711-0027 DRE#01162773 Fees=\$1969	30-yr Fixed 5.375...0.000 5.700...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...0.000 5.830...30	15-yr Fixed 4.750...0.000 5.086...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.875...0.000 4.960...30	Credit problems ok. Open weekends 2nd mortgages/Equity lines available www.westcoastfinancial.net
A Superior Mortgage 800-591-4446 DRE#01351704 Fees=\$1889	30-yr Fixed 5.625...0.000 5.850...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...0.000 5.910...30	15-yr Fixed 4.750...0.000 4.900...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.875...0.000 5.130...30	Open weekends. Credit problems OK "Apply online" Se Habla Espanol www.superior-mtge.net
A-Olympic Funding-Best Rate 800-640-5588 DRE#01197415 Fees=\$1820	30-yr Fixed 5.375...2.000 5.843...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500...2.000 5.770...30	15-yr Fixed 4.625...2.000 5.072...30	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 4.625...2.000 5.072...30	Best Rate Promise! Open 7 days 9-9 S., E Bay & Peninsula Offices Open 24/7 @ www.aolenders.com
AAA Mortgage 888-821-6020 DRE#01086146 Fees=\$1999	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.000 5.842...45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...0.000 5.916...45	15-yr Fixed 4.875...0.000 4.990...45	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.250...0.000 5.370...45	No Cost Loans Available Great Home Equity Loans Open 24/7 @ www.aalenders.com
Access Banc Best Mortgage 800-661-2765 DRE#00992804 Fees=\$1430	30-yr Fixed 5.500...0.000 5.662...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.825...0.000 5.858...30	Jumbo Special* 5.825...0.000 5.858...30	Jumbo Special* 5.825...0.000 5.858...30	3 yr/1 yr: ARM 4.125%, 3.582 APR; 0/0 Fee 5 yr/1 yr: ARM 4.875%, 3.748 APR; 0/0 Fee Prepay & other restrictions may apply
Bay Area Olympic Funding 888-633-1000 DRE#01197415 Fees=\$1685	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.000 5.794...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.014...30	3-1 Fix Pay Jmb* 1.850...0.000 1.863...30	25-6 INT ONLY JMB 3.375...0.000 3.388...30	5-1 INTEREST ONLY MEGA JUMBO 4.764% APR To \$2,500,000. NO income verif. "def int FREE Appraisal. www.MegaJumbo.com
Cal-State Funding 800-883-5363 DRE#00974441 Fees=\$2010	30-yr Fixed 5.600...1.000 5.690...45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...1.000 5.090...45	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.750...1.000 4.840...45	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.250...1.000 4.340...45	Cal-State Funding CAN fund your loan Rates change daily, call for latest rate We are here to satisfy your needs
California Mortgage Mart 800-947-4769 DRE#00406187 Fees=\$1759	30-yr Fixed 5.500...0.000 5.570...45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...0.000 5.780...45	15-yr Fixed 4.875...0.000 4.990...45	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.250...0.000 5.300...45	www.CaliforniaMortgageMart.com for loan application & 45 day upfront lock Minimum loan \$200,000
California Mtg. Advisors 888-CAL-REFI x600 DRE#01170868 Fees=\$1992	30-yr Fixed 5.625...1.250 5.829...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...0.750 5.884...30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 3.750...0.625 3.836...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.625...0.625 4.740...30	DIRECT LENDER LOANS TO 10 MILLION WWW.CALMTGS.COM
CMG Mortgage 800-958-5339 DRE#01170028 Fees=\$1433	30-yr Fixed 5.375...1.125 5.640...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.625...1.000 5.744...30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 3.500...1.000 3.605...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.250...1.000 4.370...30	Open Sat & Sun. Quik Qualifier & stated income option available. Financing for people with less than perfect credit.
Community Home Mtge. 800-670-8403 DRE#00809920 Fees=\$2102	30-yr Fixed 5.500...0.000 5.628...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...0.000 5.815...30	15-yr Fixed 4.750...0.000 4.960...30	FAHVA 30-yr Fxd 5.500...0.000 5.628...30	Lock by April 10th & get \$200 off 100% financing on purchases. We are open 7 days a week. Buy-down rate 3.75 to start
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eSource Mortgage, Inc. 888-221-9787 DRE#0038477 Fees=\$1352	30-yr Fixed 5.125...1.750 5.380...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...0.000 5.870...30	15-yr Fixed 4.625...1.750 4.840...30	OPTION ARM 1.950...0.000 4.330...60	Low rates with NO POINTS ALSO NO CLOSING COSTS AVAILABLE Pics online @www.esourcemortgage.com

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View from Back Garden

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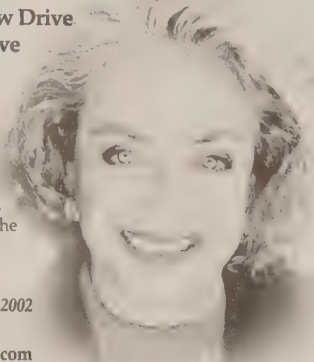
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NORTH BERKELEY \$2,500,000
Magnificent John Hudson Thomas built in 1913, approx 6,000 sq. ft. Two houses on 2 separate lots sharing a historic Japanese garden with streams, bridges, stepping stones, dwarf cypress, maple & cherry trees. Sun porch enclosed by Maybeck in 1935. Mary Hanna



OAKLAND \$369,000
New listing. Mediterranean style Bungalow, 2 bedroom, 1 bath plus separate "bunkhouse" w/full bath. Enclosed backyard w/covered deck creates private outdoor living. Off Coolidge below 580. Lois Johnson



PIEDMONT PINES \$629,000
Montclair's "retreat" neighborhood! Bright & spacious with formal dining room, breakfast area in kitchen, master bedroom suite. Verdant, private vistas, peaceful location just listed! Helen Nicholas



OAKLAND \$425,000
Farms in Oakland! Yes! 1914 two-story farmhouse. Large living room with sun streaming in. Updated kitchen w/pretty cabinetry. Private formal dining room. Master bedroom retreat with fireplace. Great home for entertaining. Close to Berkeley Bowl & Ashby BART. Plus your own "John Malcovich" Room. Cindy Bose



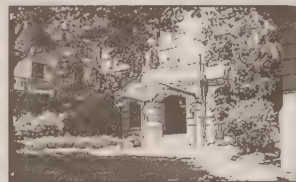
MONTCLAIR \$995,000
New construction, 3,700 sq. ft. custom home sitting on a level lot & fenced yard. Three bedrooms, three and 1/2 baths. Large living room, formal dining, designer kitchen w/cherrywood cabinets, beautiful granite counters. Maple throughout main level. Huge family room, 2 fireplaces, master suite. Mel Copland



REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$679,000
Renovated Tudor-style 3+ bedroom home in best Redwood Heights neighborhood. Best quality craftsmanship, cooks' kitchen, delightful master suite with "Juliet's" romantic balcony. Hill views and so much more - a must see. Miriam Wilson



PARKWOODS \$379,000
Watch the deer on the hillside from the windows of this two bedroom, two bath condo in Parkwoods. This Piedmont model has two master suites, gas log fireplace, oak floors in living/dining room, maple cabinets in kitchen and baths and two private decks. Amenities are pool, spa, gym, clubhouse and greenbelts. Tom Erwin



LAKE MERRITT \$729,000
Just reduced by \$50,000! Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo with views of Lake Merritt. Included are music room, Beaux-Arts architectural detailing, massive wood burning fireplace, large formal dining room and an eat-in kitchen. Building amenities are doorman service, free laundry facilities and a private formal garden. Tom Erwin

OPEN SUN 2-4:30
ROCKRIDGE 2-STORY \$529,500
Beautiful Craftsman located in popular Rockledge neighborhood. This great 2-story, 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath house has a sunny updated kitchen, hardwood floors, rear deck, lovely yard. Keith Tower

OPEN SUN 2-4:30
LINCOLN HEIGHTS \$369,000
Charming 2 bedroom, 1 bath home on quiet, tree-lined street. Minutes from Montclair Village. Hardwood floors, fireplace and large kitchen. Fabulous details and you can move right in! Sarah Schisler

LAKE MERRITT \$295,000
Bright & spacious! This one bedroom, one bath condo in Lake Merritt's famous Art Deco highrise has oak parquet floors, a massive wood burning fireplace, a formal dining room, a newly remodeled efficiency kitchen and a peek of the lake. Also included are 24 hour doorman and valet services. Tom Erwin
BROADWAY/COLLEGE/PIEDMONT \$700,000
BUY NOW, PROFIT TOMORROW! Two little money-makers on R-70 zoned lot awaiting eleven unit complex. Walk or cycle to SF Bus, BART, shopping, theater, and dining. Quiet, secluded hideaway amid sophisticated activity. A unique opportunity with preforma available through agent D.C. Hodges

MONTCLAIR \$849,000
One-of-a-kind Storybook Normandy castle designed w/curved brick walls. This is a home you have to see! Call for your appt. Visit the virtual tour at MelCopland@heritagealestate.com. Mel Copland

OPEN SUN 2-4:30
MONTCLAIR \$689,000
Tranquil five bedroom, three bath 1950's hillside Contemporary. Sunny decks, open beams, hardwood floors. Jody Dworak

LAKE MERRITT \$650,000
Live on three top floor of The Regulus in this two bedroom, two bath condo with panoramic views from every room. The newly remodeled kitchen has granite counters, cherry cabinets, stainless steel appliances, high-tech halogen lighting and ceramic tile floor. Building amenities include doorman service and private formal garden. Tom Erwin

OAKLAND \$609,000
Four bedroom, two bath English Tudor. Cosmetic fixer with lead windows. New foundation, sheetrocking & electrical. Newer roof. Updated kitchen and baths. Sue Williams

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Alameda			Alameda			Alameda			Berkeley			Berkeley		
\$235,000	965 Shorepoint Ct #313	1bd/1ba Sun 2-4 Gallagher & Lindsey	\$480,000	2518 Lincoln	3bd Sat/Sun 2-4 Main Island Kane & Associates David Gunderman Krystyna Nowak	\$588,000	305 Carob	4bd/3ba Sat 2:30-4:30 Harbor Bay Realty	\$299,000	1432 Bancroft Wy	2 BD/1 BA Open Sun 2-4:30 (510) 547-6429 Prudential, Ardeene Swain	\$905,000	1104 Spruce Street	4BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4 Berkeley Hills Realty, Bill & Tracy
\$298,000	1610 Lea Ct	1BD/1.5BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty Chuck Bianchi Nancy Bianchi	\$485,000	603 Santa Clara	3bd/2ba Sun 1-4 ReMax Accord Glenn Allen	\$589,000	1 Evans Ct	3BD/2BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty, Donnaluci Williams Fred Christensen	\$324,000	2725 Prince #9	2 BD/1 BA Open Sun 2-4 (510) 868-1400 Prudential, Laura Margulies	\$925,000	2806 Prince St.	3BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union R.E., Joanna Hirsch
\$299,000	339 Broadway	1BD/1BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty Jeffery Goodman Kathy Bell-Mathy	\$500,000	1423 Morton St	3BD/1BA Sun 2-4 Pacific Sales & Management, Inc Ann Folk, Kristen Hipol	\$589,000	932 Mound St	3BD/2BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Gallagher & Lindsey John Selbach	\$343,000	2844 Stanton St	2 BD/1 BA Open Sun 2-4 (510) 280-2123 RED OAK, Judy Richardson	\$939,000	711 Spruce St	3+BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 (510) 280-2163 RED OAK, Charlie Cook
\$299,000	955 Shorepoint Ct #106	2BD Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates	\$515,000	1373 Fernside Blvd	3BD/2BA Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty Eunice Edwards	\$599,000	1515 Fountain	3+BD/2BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty Connie Hanna	\$359,000	2725 Prince #6	1+BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union R.E., Joanna Gould	\$999,000	987 Euclid Ave	3 BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 (510) 280-2115 RED OAK, Stan Montchev
\$299,000	960 Shorepoint Ct #220	2BD/2BA Sun 2-4 Pacific Union R.E., Fritz Hochfellner	\$519,000	3322 Fernside	2+BD Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates	\$599,000	1804 San Jose Ave	3BD/1.5BA Sun 2-4 The Homes-Link Team	\$359,500	1213 Masonic Ave	2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 Berkeley Hills Realty, Jane Allen	\$1,165,000	80 El Camino.	5 BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4 (510) 527-8822 Millstein & Associates, Gene Millstein
\$369,000	2515 Central Ave #104	2BD/2BA Sun 2-4 Gallagher & Lindsey	\$525,000	546 Queens	3BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty, Barbara Bolton	\$599,000	752 Taylor St	4+BD/2BA Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty	\$409,000	1545 Parker St	3+/ Open Sun 2-4 (510) 280-2148 RED OAK, Francine Di Palma	\$1,250,000	41 Alvarado Road	3+BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co., Bebe McRae
\$395,000	3234 Adams St	2bd/1ba Sun 2-4:30 Harbor Bay Realty	\$538,000	21 Britt Court	3BD Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates	\$629,000	315 Ratto	3BD/2.5BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty	\$419,000	2733 1/2 Fulton St	2 BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 (510) 280-2148 RED OAK, Dana Cordeiro	\$1,449,000	2950 Avalon Ave.	3+BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union R.E., Mary Montali
\$410,000	2620 Buena Vista	2+BD/1.5BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty Kathy Bell-Mathy Jean Powers	\$539,000	23 Damon Court	3BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Property Investment Services Victor Jin	\$635,000	1815 Paru	3BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty	\$478,000	1603 Portland	2+1 BA Open Sun 2-4:30 (510) 292-2013 RED OAK, Todd Andrew	\$1,495,000	1512 West View Drive	4+BD/3BA Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co., Karen Starr
\$415,000	2101 Shoreline #228	3BD Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates	\$545,000	3000 San Jose Ave	3bd/1.5BA Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty	\$649,950	839 Laurel Ave	4BD/2.5BA Sun 1-5 Prudential CA Real Estate	\$515,000	1603 Portland	2 BD/1 BA Open Sun 2-4 (510) 848-1950 X242 Thorndall Properties, Kathryn Hill	\$1,950,000	1705 La Loma Avenue	4+BD/3BA Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union R.E., Gini Erck
\$425,000	621 Taylor St	3+BD/1.7BA Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty	\$545,000	914 Ironwood	3BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4 Gallagher & Lindsey, Kelko McDonah	\$675,000	2226 Clinton Ave	5BD/2BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty	\$525,000	1624 Jaynes Street	2BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co., Faye Keogh	Hayward		
\$428,000	1541 Eight St	2BD/1BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Gallagher & Lindsey Rolando Coqui Basora Katherine Dulong	\$549,950	3219 Liberty Ave.	2BD/1.5BA 2-4:30 Robert Jones & Associates	\$699,000	127 Jervis Bay	3BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4 The Homes-Link Team	\$537,000	2430 5th Street Unit 1	1+BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union R.E., Rich Gould	\$476,000	1970 Barton Way	4BD/3BA Sun 10-5 Assist-2-Sell, Howard Kane
\$429,000	2853 Brown St	2BD Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates	\$559,000	7 Danbrook	3BD/2BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty Shirley McWilliams, Donnaluci Williams	\$699,000	90 Applegate Wy	4BD/2.5BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty	\$550,000	1217 Carlotta Ave	2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 Berkeley Hills Realty, Bill & Tracy	\$5528,950	25287 Morse Ct	3BD/2BA Sun 1-3 The Homes-Link Team
\$435,000	3224 Sterling	3BD/1BA Sun 2-4 Gallagher & Lindsey	\$565,000	40 Hampton	3BD/2BA Sat 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty	\$739,000	1624 San Antonio Ave	3BD/1.5BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty	\$595,000	1306 Cornell Ave	2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri	\$650,000	32 Highgate Ave	3+BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 (510) 559-2915 Marvin Gardens, Todd Hodson
\$439,000	3223 Encinal Ave	2BD/1.5BA Sun 2-5 Bickley Real Estate	\$570,000	422 Sheffield Rd	3bd/2ba Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty	\$929,500	1624 San Antonio Ave	3BD/1.5BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty	\$645,000	2441 Carleton St	3BD/1+BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker, Dell Orr	Lafayette		
\$444,000	152 Centre Court	2BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4 Windermere Properties, East Bay, Peter Fletcher	\$575,000	2435 Roosevelt Dr	2BD/2BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Gallagher & Lindsey Pacita Dimacale Evelyn Kennedy	\$929,500	1624 San Antonio Ave	3BD/1.5BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty	\$659,000	110 Brookside Dr	3 BD/2 BA Open Sun 2-4 (510) 280-2138 RED OAK, Billy Karp	\$1,790,000	1054 Vista Bella	4BD/3BA Open Sun 1-4 Village Associates, Joan Evans
\$449,000	119 Maitland	3BD Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates,	\$575,000	3230 Thompson	2+BD/1BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty	\$929,500	1624 San Antonio Ave	3BD/1.5BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty	\$665,000	1841 San Pedro Ave	3BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Real Estate, Nancy Rothman	Oakland		
\$449,000	1541 Santa Clara Ave	2+BD/2BA Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty Bolton	\$575,000	7 Argus Ct	3BD/2.5BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty, Darin Vinnal	\$929,500	1624 San Antonio Ave	3BD/1.5BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty	\$699,000	1330 Campus Drive	3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 Berkeley Hills Realty, Terese Ashman	\$45,000	3272 Pleitner Ave.	3BD/2BA Appt. call Sat/ Sun 12-4pm Help-U-Sell East Bay, Tony Wright
\$449,900	917 Centennial	2BD/2BA Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty	\$579,000	6 Dow Ct	3+BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty	\$929,500	1624 San Antonio Ave	3BD/1.5BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty	\$699,000	2509-2511 Woolsey	2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 (510) 848-1950 X240 Thorndall Properties, Colleen Larkin	\$950,000	6069 Fairlane Dr.	4BD/3BA Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union R.E., Nancy Moore
\$464,500	232 Santa Clara Ave	2BD/1BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty Russ Grant Marilyn Pomeroy	\$585,000	1317 East Shore Dr	3BD/2BA Sun 2-4 Gallagher & Lindsey, Dorothy Franchi	\$929,500	1624 San Antonio Ave	3BD/1.5BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty	\$735,000	945 Hilldale Avenue	3BD/3BA Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co., Chris Cohn & Lori Lombardo	\$1,999,000	425 Orange St.	510-531-1111 Wells & Bennett Realtors, Anne Manely
\$469,000	522 Santa Clara Ave	2BD/1.5BA Sun 2-4 Gallagher & Lindsey	\$587,500	1032 Fountain St.	2+BD/1BA Sun 2-4 Realty Advocates Lori Davis	\$929,500	1624 San Antonio Ave	3BD/1.5BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty	\$749,500	2745 Parker Street	3+BD/2+BA Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co., Chris Cohn	\$215,000	245 Montecito Ave. #304	510-531-1111 Wells & Bennett Realtors, Patsy Buhler

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Oakland	Oakland	Oakland	Oakland
\$19,000 1425 Lakeside Drive #305 1BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 (510) 292-2002 Wells & Bennett Realtors, Pedram Karbassi	\$418,000 6679 Pine Needle Dr. 2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair Montclair Better Homes, Teresa Chan	\$535,000 6821 Thornhill Dr 2+BD/1.5 Open Sun 2-5 (510) 339-9290 Prudential-Montclair, Andreas Furtner	\$739,000 17 Captains Cove 3BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30 Hillier Highlands 510-531-7000 x248 Wells & Bennett Realtors, Peter Nicolopoulos
\$50,000 250 Whittemore #111 1 BD./1 BA. Sun 2-4 (510) 280-2155 RED OAK, Josh Levine	\$418,000 6679 Pine Needle Dr. 2BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Montclair 510-339-8400 Montclair Better Homes, Teresa Chan	\$539,000 1908 Clemens Road 2+BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Oakmore 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Tricia Swift	\$749,000 4929 Clarke St 6 BD./3 BA. Open Sun 2-4:30 (510) 845-0211 Prudential, Ted Normant & Rita Harrington
\$90,000 730 29th St C11 loft Sun 2-4:30 (510) 280-2155 RED OAK, Dianne Arancibia	\$419,000 6314 Majestic 2+1 BA Open Sun 2-5 (510) 845-0211 Prudential, Lisa Friedman	\$539,000 3736 Ardley 2+BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Glenview 510-338-1373 Pacific Union R.E., Nancy Norman	\$750,000 39 Bowles Place 3BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Angela Wei Grubb
\$10,000 758 Kingston Ave., #101 1BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Piedmont Ave. 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Elena Stone	\$421,999 2801 Seminary Ave 3 BD/1.5 Open Sun 2-4:30 (510) 339-9290 Prudential-Montclair, John Wesley	\$539,000 4315 Atlas Ave 2+BD/1+BA Sun 2-5 Redwood Heights 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Donna Conroy	\$769,000 4425 Arcadia Avenue 4BD/3.5BA Sun 2-4:30 Oakmore 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Jill Carrigan
\$99,000 400 Wayne Avenue #2 2BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 (510) 531-7000 x238 Wells & Bennett Realtors, Patsy Buhler	\$425,000 2700 Madeline 2BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Laurel 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Michael Gormley	\$549,000 3353 Burdeck 3+BD/2+BA Sun 2-4:30 Joaquin Miller 510-531-7000 x292 Wells & Bennett Realtors, Carol Robbiano	\$795,000 5227 Masonic Ave 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-5 Upper Rockridge 510-339-8400 Montclair Better Homes, Michael Thompson
\$75,000 6150 Monadnock Way 2BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Reva Tolbert	\$429,000 422 Haddon Rd 3 BD./1 BA Open Sun 2-5 (510) 595-7699 Prudential, Dave Higgins	\$558,000 8070 Phaeton Dr 3 BD./2 BA Open Sun 2-4:30 (510) 339-9290 Prudential-Montclair, Myrtle Wong	\$795,000 5227 Masonic Ave 3BD/2BA Sun 2-5 Upper Rockridge 510-339-8400 Montclair Better Homes, Michael Thompson
\$100,000 371 - 30th St., #301 1BD/1BA Sun 1-5 Pili Hill 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Elena Stone	\$435,000 3142 Arizona 2BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Laurel 510-339-8400 Montclair Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri	\$559,000 438 62nd 2 BD./1 BA Open Sun 2-4:30 (510) 845-0211 Prudential, Roy Grigsby	\$799,000 23 Buena Vista Place 2+BD/3BA Sun 2-5 Rockridge (Upper) 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Ruby Ng
\$100,000 2345 23rd Ave 2BD./1 BA. Sun 2-4:30 (510) 339-9290 Prudential-Montclair, Noel Morata	\$435,000 129 Mountain Valley 2BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30 Sequoyah Heights 510-569-3499 Richardson Real Estate, Georgia Richardson	\$599,000 8010 Surrey Ln 4 BD./2 BA Open 2-4:30 (510) 635-6389 Prudential California Realty, Tisa Cormier-Thrower	\$799,000 4301 Bridgeview Drive 5BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4:30 Oakmore 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Bettina Balestrieri
\$100,000 3916 Whittle Ave 3 BD./2 BA Sun 2-4:30 (510) 280-2155 RED OAK, Kenneth Dara	\$435,000 3142 Arizona 2BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30 Laurel 510-339-8400 Montclair Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri	\$575,000 4641 Carson 3BD/3BA Sun 2-5 Redwood Heights 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Becky Andersen	\$824,500 11710 Cranford Wy 4 BD./3 BA. Open Sun 2-4:30 (510) 339-9290 Prudential-Montclair, George Millirons
\$100,000 5457 Brookdale Ave. 2BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Lakeshore 510-530-6330 List-2-Sell, Howard Kane	\$435,000 4794 Redding St 2BD/2BA Sun 2-4 Maxwell Park 510-523-0707 Panavista Realty	\$579,000 5666 Cabot Dr 2 BD./1 BA Open Sun 1-5 (510) 339-9290 Prudential-Montclair, Katie O'Shea	\$829,000 5955 Girvin Drive 4BD/3.5BA Sun 2-4:30 Piedmont Pines 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Angela Wei Grubb
\$100,000 7700 Grand Lake, Mark Mata 2 BD./2 BA Sun 2-5 (510) 634-2010 Prudential Grand Lake, Mark Mata	\$439,000 4912 Lawton Ave. 3+BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30 Temescal 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Zanna Knight	\$585,000 7040 Homewood Drive 4BD/2.5BA Sun 2-5 Montclair 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Nader Davari	\$845,000 1049 Hubert Rd 3 BD./1.5 Open Sun 1:30-4:30 (510) 530-3235 Prudential Grand Lake, Jackie
\$100,000 558 10th Street 2BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30 Downtown Oakland 510-531-7000 x295 Wells & Bennett Realtors, Heidi Kearsley	\$449,000 3512 Victor Avenue 2BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Redwood Heights 510-652-2133 The Grubb Co., Donna Debard	\$589,000 785 Calmar 3BD/2BA Sun 2-5 Crocker 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Ruby Ng	\$849,000 3020 Richmond 6 BD./6 BA. Open Sun 2-4 (510) 834-2010 Prudential California Realty, Manjit Singh
\$100,000 708 44th Street 2 BD./2 BA Sun 2-4:30 North Oakland 510-531-7000 x246 Wells & Bennett Realtors, Stan Hammond	\$449,000 4362 Bennett Pl 2+BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Redwood Heights 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Victor Fierro	\$599,000 101 Glen Eden Avenue 3+BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30 Piedmont Avenue 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Sheila Gallagher	\$875,000 1830 Grand View Dr. 2+BD/2BA Sun 2-4 Oakland Hills 510-338-1329 Pacific Union R.E., Jeanine Weller
\$100,000 2845 School St 2 BD./2 BA Sun 2-4:30 (510) 339-9290 Prudential-Montclair, Vince Moran	\$449,000 736 56th St 2BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 North Oakland 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Noni Robinson	\$599,000 1610 Dayton Ct. 6BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4:30 Golf Links 510-339-4000 Montclair Better Homes, Nanine Watson	\$890,000 51 Bay Forest Drive 4BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4:30 Oakland Hills 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Sandra Vogl
\$100,000 9716 Thermal St 2BA./1BA Sun 2-4:30 (510) 339-9290 Prudential-Montclair, Dollie Henson	\$459,000 1335 Bates Road 2BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Steve Michaelides	\$599,000 6541 Snake Road 2BD/2BA Sun 2-5 Montclair 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Carolyn Devol	\$899,000 6615 Elverton Dr 5 BD./4 BA. Open Sun 2:30-4:30 Montclair Hills (510) 339-9290 Prudential-Montclair, Heidi Marchesotti
\$100,000 2707 Park Blvd. 2+BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 China Hill 510-339-8400 Montclair Better Homes, Teresa Chan	\$459,000 4368 Bermuda Ave 3 BD./2 BA Open Sun 2-4:30 (510) 339-9290 Prudential-Montclair, Michael Stephens	\$610,000 4608 Jacobus Ave. 2BD/1.5BA Sun 10-5 Upper Rockridge 510-530-6330 Assist-2-Sell, Howard Kane	\$899,000 7164 Buckingham Blvd. 3 BD./3 BA. Open Sun 2-4:30 (510) 845-0211 Prudential, Sharon Ho
\$100,000 2707 Park Blvd 2+BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 China Hill 510-339-8400 Montclair Better Homes, Teresa Chan	\$460,000 1002 Everett Avenue 2BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Glenview 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Kurt Buchholz	\$619,000 5 Buena Vista Place 3BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30 Upper Rockridge 510-338-1303 Pacific Union R.E., Wendy Gardner	\$899,000 7455 Woodrow Dr. 3+BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4:30 Montclair 510-338-1302 Pacific Union Real Estate, Nancy Moore
\$100,000 3568 Davis St. 2BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 510-339-8400 Montclair Better Homes, Patricia Bennett	\$465,000 117 Mountain Valley 3BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4:30 Oakland Hills 510-338-1310 Pacific Union Real Estate, Robyn Mohr	\$649,000 5630 Shattuck Ave 6 BD./6 BA Open Sun 2-5 (510) 834-2010 Prudential California Realty, Manjit Singh	\$939,000 1820 Trestle Glen 3BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4:30 Piedmont 510-531-7000 Wells & Bennett Realtors, Wendy or Mary
\$100,000 3568 Davis Street 2BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 510-339-8400 Montclair Better Homes, Patricia Bennett	\$469,000 440 Park Blvd 2BD/1BA Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty 510-814-4878 Karin Ingeman	\$649,000 466 Hudson Street 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 Rockridge 510-524-9888 x12 Berkeley Hills Realty, Joan Brunswick	\$969,000 7112 Westmoreland 4BD/3.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Claremont Hills 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, David Eckert
\$100,000 260 Caldecott Lane #217 2BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30 North Oakland 510-339-8400 Montclair Better Homes, Mary Jane McConville	\$469,000 3973 Hanly Road 2BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Oakmore 510-531-7000 x286 Wells & Bennett Realtors, Heidi Tuggle	\$649,000 4106 Lakeshore Avenue 3BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Linda McClain	\$974,000 6224 Broadway Terrace 3+BD/2+ Sun 1-5pm Upper Rockridge 510-547-5970 x55 Lawton Associates, Ron Kris
\$100,000 1025 Bayview Ave 3 BD./2 BA Sun 1-4 (510) 834-2010 Prudential, C.P. Yang	\$474,000 4364-66 Montgomery St. 510-339-6460 x1363 Sun 2-4:30 Piedmont Ave 510-339-8400 Pacific Union R.E., Leslie Easterday	\$679,000 4390 Bridgeview 4BD/2.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Upper Oakmore 510-339-8400 Montclair Better Homes, Martha Shin	\$985,000 5565 Moraga Rd 4 BD./4 BA. Open Sun 2-5 (510) 845-0211 Prudential California Realty, Barbara Hopper
\$100,000 1760 10th Street 3BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30 Oakland West 510-339-8900 x262 Heritage RE, Sheila Brox Crawford	\$479,000 3620 Seminary Ave 2BD/2+BA Sun 1-4:30 Oakland Hills 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Victor Ratto	\$679,000 3357 Jordan... 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Redwood Heights 510-339-8900 C21 Heritage, Miriam Wilson	\$995,000 6960 Norfolk Road 4BD/4.5BA Sun 2-4:30 Claremont Hills 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Jill Carrigan
\$100,000 2607 Kingsland 2BD/1BA Sun 1-4 Maxwell Park 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Andy Usher	\$479,000 7087 Pinehaven Rd 3 BD./2 BA Open Sun 2-4:30 (510) 339-9290 Prudential-Montclair, Angie Williams	\$679,000 4390 Bridgeview 4BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4:30 Upper Oakmore 510-339-8400 Montclair Better Homes, Martha Shin	\$999,000 6350 Contra Costa Rd. 4BD/4BA Sun 2-4:30 Upper Rockridge 510-531-7000 x290 Wells & Bennett Realtors, Pedram Karbassi
\$100,000 3030 Linden St 2+1 BA Sun 2-4:30 (510) 339-9290 Prudential-Montclair, Howard Converse	\$488,500 364 Lester Ave 2+BD/2+BA Sun 2-5 Lake Merritt 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Donna Conroy	\$680,000 1206 Trestle Glen Road 2+BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Ann Petitt Tunney	\$999,999 5740 Colton Blvd. 4BD/3.5BA Open Sun 2-5 Montclair 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Donna Conroy
\$100,000 400 Wayne Avenue #7 2BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30 Lakeshore 510-531-7000 x238 Wells & Bennett Realtors, Patsy Buhler	\$499,000 7021 Saroni Dr. 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair 510-339-4000 Montclair Better Homes, Seki Chikami	\$689,000 5601 Balmoral Drive 3BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30 Hillcrest Estates 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Anne Feste	\$1,095,000 7967 Skyline Blvd. 4BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair 510-339-8400 Montclair Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri
\$100,000 979 44th 4BD/1.5BA Sun 2-4:30 North Oakland 510-531-7000 x246 Wells & Bennett Realtors, Stan Hammond	\$499,000 255 Crestmont Dr. 3BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30 Crestmont 510-338-1356 Pacific Union R.E., Helen Danhaki	\$689,000 2811 Steinmetz Wy 4 BD./2.5 Open Sun 2-4 (510) 280-2104 RED OAK, Tom Cone	\$1,095,000 7967 Skyline Blvd 4BD/3BA Sun 2-4:30 Montclair 510-339-8400 Montclair Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri
\$100,000 3045 Texas Street 2BD/1BA Sun 2-5 Laurel 510-339-8900 x226 Heritage RE, Lois Johnson	\$499,000 5320 Broadway Tri-Plex Open 2-4:30 Rockridge 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Dan Joy	\$689,000 6824 Paso Robles 5BD/3BA Open Sun 2-5 Rockridge 510-339-6160 x299 C21 Heritage R.E. Jody Dworzak	\$1,125,000 3237 Burdeck Dr 4BD/3BA Sun 2-4:30 Oakland Hills 510-338-1318 Pacific Union R.E., Dee Knowland
\$100,000 3907 Laguna Ave. 2BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Lincoln Heights 510-339-8900 x251 Heritage R.E., Sarah Schisler	\$499,000 7021 Saroni Dr. 3BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30 Montclair 510-339-4000 Montclair Better Homes, Seko Chikanne	\$695,000 10966 Cliffland Ave 4 BD./4 BA. Open Sun 2-4:30 (510) 339-9290 Prudential-Montclair, Dollie Henson	\$1,175,000 6556 Dawes 3+BD/3BA Sun 2-4:30 Montclair (Piedmont side) 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Dana Cohen
\$100,000 371 30th St. 2BD/2BA Sun 1-5 Pili Hill 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Elena Stone	\$508,000 461 Cavour St. 2BD/1BA Sun 1-5pm Rockridge 510-547-5970 x55 Lawton Associates, Ron Kriss	\$699,000 4 Bowles Place 3BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Elizabeth Dickson	\$1,200,000 6959 Charing Cross 4BD/4.5BA Sun 2-4:30 Oakland Hills 510-531-7000 x228 Wells & Bennett Realtors, Kate Phillips
\$100,000 7530 Valentine St. 2BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Oakland Hills 510-338-1334 Pacific Union R.E., Vicki Woodhead	\$514,900 184 Santa Clara Ave 3BD/1.5BA Sun 2-5 510-748-1160 Gallagher & Lindsey Renate Kohlmann	\$699,000 5215 Locksley Ave. 2BD/1BA & 1BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Rockridge 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Carolyn Jones	\$1,249,000 13735 Skyline Blvd. 3+BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4:30 Hillcrest Estates 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., K. Buchholz & J. Simmons
\$100,000 3007 57th Ave 3BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 510-337-8670 Prudential CA Realty John W. Abbott III	\$519,000 1405 Allman 2+BD/1.5BA Sun 2-5 Glenview 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Claudia Bowman	\$699,000 6035 Chaboly Terrace 3BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30 Rockridge 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Wendy Sprague	\$1,250,000 996 Grosvenor Place 5BD/3BA Sun 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Nancy Lehnkind
\$100,000 7540 Sterling Dr 2 BD./2 BA Sun 1-4 (510) 851-6627 Prudential, Shirley Covington	\$519,000 4021 Norton Ave 2+1/5 Open Sun 2-4:30 (510) 339-9290 Prudential-Montclair, Mary Dresser	\$699,000 2134 Braemar Rd. 3BD/3BA Sun 2-4:30 Upper Oakmore 510-338-1359 Pacific Union R.E., Michelle Vasey	\$1,295,000 6117 Buena Vista Ave. 4+BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4:30 Upper Rockridge 510-338-1638 Pacific Union R.E., Ashley O'Neill
\$100,000 4701 Meldon Ave. 2+BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Maxwell Park 510-338-1316 Pacific Union R.E., Joan Dark	\$519,000 7940 Hansom Dr. 4BD/2BA Sun 1-5 Sequoyah Heights 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Nancy Maloney	\$699,000 5955 Rincon... 4 BD./2 BA. Open Sun 2-4 (510) 280-2140 RED OAK, Barbara Hendrickson	\$1,395,000 1029 Amito Dr. 5BD/4.5BA Sun 2-4:30 Claremont 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Joan Alford
\$100,000 5901 San Pablo Ave. 3BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 510-339-4000 Montclair Better Homes, Rosemary Greene	\$520,000 751 Hillgirt Circle 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 (510) 339-9290 Prudential-Montclair, Bill Boze	\$699,000 6138 Ocean View Dr. 3BD/2+BA Sun 2-4:30 Upper Rockridge 510-338-1324 Pacific Union R.E., Roselle Woods	\$1,475,000 5016 Cochrane Avenue 4BD/3BA Sun 2-4:30 Rockridge 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Kurt Buchholz
\$100,000 5901 San Pablo Ave 3BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 510-339-8400 Montclair Better Homes, Rosemary Greene	\$525,000 5346 Broadway 2+BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Rockridge 510-339-8400 Montclair Better Homes, MJ McConville	\$719,000 6314 Broadway Terrace 3BD Sun 2-4:30 Oakland 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Debbi Dimaggio	\$1,549,000 10 Dorothy Place 6BD/4BA Sun 2-4:30 Claremont Hills 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Dana Cohen
\$100,000 5957 Canning St 3BA./1 BA. Sun 2-4:30 (510) 339-9290 Prudential-Montclair, David Otero	\$525,000 5346 Broadway 2+BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Rockridge 510-339-8400 Montclair Better Homes, Mary Jane McConville	\$729,000 24 Mandana Circle 3BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Dian Hymer	\$2,498,000 6031 Skyline Blvd. 4+BD/5BA Sun 2-4:30 Montclair 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co., Debra J. Dryden
\$100,000 430 Bradrick Dr 3BD Sun 1-3:04 510-521-4045 Real Estate Janelle Spatz	\$529,500 5261 Miles Ave. 2BD/1.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Rockridge 510-339-8900 x254 C21 Heritage RE, Keith Tower	\$735,000 1224 Holman Road 3+BD/1.5BA Sun 2-5 Crocker Highlands 510-339-4700 Caldwell Banker, Ellen Lancaster	

What are you doing this weekend?

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Looking for a new home? Don't miss this week's Open Home Guide on page B18.



NEW LISTING

OPEN SUN. 1-4
28 Sandringham Place,
Piedmont

Gracious 2-story traditional in quiet cul-de-sac in lovely neighborhood. 4 spacious bdrms., 3 full baths, office large living rm., formal dining rm., huge atrium/lanai w/wet bar & frpls., bonus rm., eat-in kit., deck.

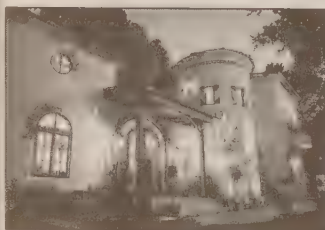
\$1,800,000



10 Katrina Court, Orinda

Lovely gated, secluded home on quiet cul-de-sac with creekside setting, sits on apx. 1.19 acres w/apx. 3093 sf. 4 bdrms., 3 full baths, bonus rm., eat-in kit., guest/fam. rm., sparkling pool, fab. views. Call to preview.

\$1,499,000



24 Moraga Via, Orinda
Exquisite Orinda Estate Property

Nestled among century old oak trees, this exquisite masterpiece has 4 spacious bdrms., 4 full baths, large master suite with frpls., office and wet bar. Spectacular great room/liv. rm. with soaring ceiling, frpls., DR, gourmet kit. Authentic European craftsmanship and antique materials used wherever possible. Call to preview.

\$2,900,000

JERILYNN BABINGTON
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(510) 547-1615



The GRUBB Co.

NEW LISTING



145 Golgett Drive, Oakland Hills

COMING SOON. Inspired balance of form is showcased throughout this exquisite custom built property. Indulge yourself in elegantly proportioned rooms, rich textures, exceptional features and beautiful architectural detailing. Commanding views of Francisco and bridges delight the senses. Five bedrooms, four and one half baths, gourmet kitchen, media room, family room, library, stately living room, formal dining, fabulous master retreat, gym/aupair/recreation room with full bath.

Offered at \$1,695,000

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MAGNIFICENT ESTATE **\$8,750,000**

9 BR 4.5 BA John Hudson Thomas designed home known as the "Spring Mansion." Includes 3BR house & 2BR cottage on approx 3.2 acres. Tennis court, grand atrium.

Kim & Barbara Marienthal **\$10,981,303**



CLAREMONT PINES **\$1,595,000**

4 BR 3.5 BA + 3 half Move right in to this grand Claremont Pines home. Spacious, dramatic, fabulous kitchen, yard & pool, family room, library, master bedroom retreat.

Dian Hymer **510.339.4700**



OAKLAND HILLS **\$1,395,000**

5 BR 4.5 BA Superior design & craftsmanship. Bay & Claremont Canyon views: gourmet kitchen w/granite counters & SS appliances; luxurious master.

Joan Alfaro **510.339.4700**



OAKLAND **\$1,166,000**

4 BR 2.5 BA 8 rooms. Upper Rockridge/Claremont Pines. Born 1993, this stately traditional 2 story home offers amenities, customizations & touches. Views of hills.

Josh Whitmer **510.486.1495**



ROCKRIDGE (UPPER) **\$799,000**

23 Buena Vista Place Sun 2 - 5
2+ BR 3 BA incl. attach legal studio apt-use as part of home/home of? Cham! 1918 Medit Bay wul cul-de-sac EZ acc to fwys & BART. Rare find! Fotos-ruyng.com

Ruby Ng **510.339.4700**



OAKLAND **\$500,000**

6 BR 5 BA & 2 kitchen! Great for extended or multi-families. Needs TLC. Beautiful views & a large yard lend additional features to this property.

Casey Asche **510.486.1495**



OAKLAND **\$479,000**

3620 Seminary Ave Sun 1 - 4:30
2+ BR 2 BA Tudor-style home on upper Seminary. Dual-pane windows, upgraded kitchen, bath, electrical; large living & family room, 2 FP, HWF, eat-in kitchen.

Victor Ratto **510.339.4700**



BERKELEY **\$599,000**

1184-89 Arch St. Sun
2+ BR 1 BA each. Golden duplex! Two romantic brown shingle cottages share a plot of 6750 SF. Need work. Use your imagination!

Linda or Bobbie **510.486.1495**

FIRST OPENS

ROCKRIDGE HIGHLANDS

24 Mandana Circle Sun 2 - 4:30 **\$729,000**
3+ BR 2.5 BA Move right in! Traditional with cheerful living room, formal dining, den, updated eat-in kitchen, sunny yard, great master suite.

Dian Hymer **510.339.4700**

MONTCLAIR

6541 Snake Rd. Sun 2 - 5 **\$599,000**
2 BR 2 BA Breath-taking views! Bright, open floor plan, plus room, recent upgrades, beamed-ceiling, hardwood floors, 2-car garage.

Carolyn Devol **510.339.4700**

CROCKER

785 Calmar Sun 2 - 5 **\$589,000**
3 BR 2.5 BA Nu list! Darling home by larger ones. HWF, FP, 2BR/1BA up. 1BR/1BA + large recm & workshop down; great storage, garage; near shops; EZ SF commute.

Ruby Ng **510.339.4700**

MONTCLAIR

7040 Homeswood Dr. Sun 2 - 5 **\$585,000**
4 BR 2.5 BA Great indoor/outdoor living in this elegant home w/vaulted ceilings, updated kitchen/family room, 2 FP, 2-car garage & sunny, level yard.

Nader Davari **510.339.4700**

REDWOOD HEIGHTS

4461 Carson Sun 2 - 5 **\$575,000**
3 BR 2 BA Charming Traditional-great location; large, level rear lawn; Knotty-Pine family room w/built-ins, FDR, large living room w/FP; garage w/winter. access.

Becky Andersen **510.339.4700**

SEQUOYAH HEIGHTS

7940 Hansom Dr. Sun 1 - 5 **\$519,000**
4 BR 2 BA Spacious & charming one-level home. Great floor plan; access private landscaped garden from kitchen & family room; generous 2-car garage. Beautiful!

Nancy Maloney **510.339.4700**

ROCKRIDGE

5320 Broadway Sun 2 - 4:30 **\$499,000**
1 BR 1 BA Tri-plex w/one vacant unit. Turn-of-the-century Four-Square Colonial with loads of charm. Live in one and/or income. Close to shops, dining & BART.

Dan Joy **510.339.4700**

NORTH OAKLAND

736 56th St. Sun 2 - 4:30 **\$449,000**
3 BR 1 BA Charming updated Craftsman. Wood-beamed ceilings, informal dining room, kitchen w/granite & new appliances, closets w/built-ins, landscaped yard.

Nori Robinson **510.339.4700**

ALBANY

1044 Masonic Ave Sun 2 - 4 **\$449,000**
2 BR 1 BA Home sweet home! Charming! Spacious & light-filled! Basement & detached garage. Plenty of storage. Double lot! "Upgrades" More Info: iMakeYourMove.com

Bobbie Giarratana **510.486.1495**

BERKELEY

2441 Carleton St. Sun 2 - 4:30 **\$645,000**
3 BR 1+ BA This 1912 Tudor is near campus, restaurants & shops. Enjoy HWF, formal living & dining, attic, large extra space, charming staircase & serene garden.

Dell Orr **510.339.4700**

OPENS

MONTCLAIR

5740 Colton Blvd. Sun 2 - 5 **\$999,999**
4 BR 3.5 BA Stunning new Contemporary close to Montclair Village. Built-in space, formal dining, kitchen/family room combo, master suite opens to terrace yard.

Donna Conroy **510.339.4700**

CLAREMONT HILLS

7112 Westmoreland Sun 2 - 4:30 **\$969,000**
4 BR 3.5 BA Priced to sell! New construction - Views of the Bay; incredible space, cathedral ceilings, gourmet kitchen, private guest suite, high-end finishes.

Terry Anthony **510.339.4700**

CROCKER HIGHLANDS

1224 Holman Rd. Sun 2 - 5 **\$735,000**
3+ BR 1.5 BA Stunning Old World charm in this Normandy-style home circa 1923; renovated kitchen & baths; deck & lovely garden.

Ellen Lancaster **510.339.4700**

REDWOOD HEIGHTS

4315 Atlas Ave Sun 2 - 5 **\$539,000**
2+ BR 1 BA Charming Traditional waiting for you! Formal living & dining room; big deck off kitchen; large extra space down.

Donna Conroy **510.339.4700**

GLENVIEW

1405 Altman Sun 2 - 5 **\$519,000**
2+ BR 1.5 BA Medit. Bungalow w/arch details, HWF, sunny kitchen opening to lovely terraced garden, renovated bath; All done w/an artist's eye for beauty & detail.

Claudia Bowman **510.339.4700**

BERKELEY

1227 Neilson St. Sun 2 - 4 **\$499,000**
2 BR 1 BA Westbrae gem beautifully remodeled. Newly redone hwd flrs, frpls, new kitchen & bath, new wood windows, French doors to Mediterranean veranda/garden.

Kimiko Terry **510.486.1495**

CHINA HILL

364 Lester Ave Sun 2 - 5 **\$488,500**
2+ BR 1.5 BA Versatile floor plan; main level 2BR/1BA, attic space used as master suite; separate in-law w/kitchen & bath. Wow!

Donna Conroy **510.339.4700**

REDWOOD HEIGHTS

4362 Bennett Pl. Sun 2 - 4:30 **\$449,000**
2 BR 1 BA Spacious family room, fireplace, gleaming hardwood floors, detached bonus room, recently updated bath, lovely gardens, 2-car garage.

Victor Perno **510.339.4700**

TEMESCAL

4912 Lawton Ave Sun 2 - 4:30 **\$439,000**
3+ BR 2 BA Unique, charming 1910 Farmhouse! Spacious, private, convenient Temescal location near everything! Seller says make an offer!

Zanna Knight **510.339.4700**

LAUREL

2700 Madeline Sun 2 - 4:30 **\$425,000**
2 BR 1 BA Stunning, colorful, sunny Bungalow - updated plumbing/electrical, gourmet kitchen, spa tub, newer roof; desirable neighborhood.

Michael Gornley **510.339.4700**

PILL HILL

371 30th St #103 Sun 1 - 5 **\$375,000**
2 BR 2 BA - Only 2 units left! Beautiful new construction complex. Near Piedmont Ave., downtown view, HWF, granite, euro fixtures, laundry, 1-car parking.

Elena Stone **510.339.4700**

OPENS

GLENVIEW (UPPER)

1110 Hollywood Ave. #B Sun 2 - 4:30 **\$599,000**
2 BR 1.5 BA Great location. Near BART, plus 1-car garage, freeway access.

Maxwell Park **510.339.4700**

MAXWELL PARK

2607 Kingsland Sun 1 - 4 **\$379,000**
2 BR 1 BA Charming Bungalow: nice floor plan, separate dining room, yard, fruit trees, convenient location, upgrades. Do not miss!

Andy Usher **510.339.4700**

PILL HILL

371 30th St #103 Sun 1 - 5 **\$375,000**
1 BR 1 BA - Last one in beautiful new construction of Hill view, 1-car parking, laundry, HWF, granite & ss kitchen fixtures; walk to Piedmont Ave!

Elena Stone **510.339.4700**

PIEDMONT AVE

758 Kingston Ave #101 Sun 2 - 4:30 **\$519,000**
1 BR 1 BA Spacious updated condo facing street/green. First level above garage - corner unit, 1-car garage. Near Piedmont Ave. restaurants & shops.

Elena Stone **510.339.4700**

SAN LEANDRO

308 Chumalla Sun 2 - 5 **\$299,000**
2 BR 1.5 BA Private, spacious end-unit w/back yard & neighbors-just the creek & trees: 1-car, attached garage near BART, shops & restaurants.

Elena Stone **510.339.4700**

BY APPT

BERKELEY

3 BR 2 BA + extra room. Nestled in the trees on apx. sq. ft. lot near Tilden Park. Excellent indoor-outdoor Cathedral ceiling, fireplace, stained glass.

Linda Gerson **510.486.1495**

BERKELEY

2 BR 1.5 BA NEW PRICE! townhome in super Elmhurst location. Fireplace, deck, laundry, parking. Close to shopping & transportation.

Kim Marienthal **510.486.1495**

MONTCLAIR

Skyline at Elvinton: downslope w/views & engineers' plans, ready for permit.

David Eckert **510.339.4700**

PIEDMONT PINES

Beautiful building lot. Approx. 36,000 sq.ft. close to Village. Build your dream home!

Diana Daniel **510.339.4700**

BUYER NEEDS

In the Berkeley or Oakland Hills. 4BR/2BA home up to \$1,200,000. Please call Josh Whitmer, 510-981-3027.

In Piedmont. 2-3 Bdrm. home. Needing renovation. Up to \$900,000. Please call Maura Allen, 510-981-3034.

Preferably in Berkeley Hills & Thousand Oaks area. 4BR home up to \$700,000. Please call Kim & Barbara Marienthal, 510-981-3036.

Light-filled contemporary in Berkeley. 3BR/2BA plus 1 up to \$1,000,000. Please call Nadine Ott, 510-981-3034.

Elmwood/LeConte School. 3+BR/2BA, sunny yard. Up to \$700,000. Please call Sarah Shankman, 510-981-3034.

Rockridge or No. Berkeley. 2BR or more. Craftsman-style bungalow. Up to \$500,000. Please call Bobbie Giarratana, 510-981-3031.

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1919 Hopkins Street, Berkeley

COMING SOON. A lovely craftsman (circa 1916) with wonderful detailing. There are three bedrooms, one bathroom, a plus room used as a study, updated kitchen, front and back gardens and detached garage. This property is ideally located, within close proximity to shops, parks and library!



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New Listing!
OPEN 2-4:30PM SUNDAY, APRIL 6TH



1841 San Pedro Ave ~ Berkeley

Wonderful traditional beautifully appointed with gourmet kitchen, spacious formal living and dining rooms, 3 bedroom, 2 updated baths and recently landscaped level out yard. Near Solano Avenue. Offered at \$665,000



Nancy Rothman
(510) 339-2169 ext. 209
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Susan O. Peterson
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OUR FEATURED HOME
152 Centre Court, Alameda

Lovely townhome in Harbor Bay Isle



2 Master Bedroom Suites,
2 1/2 Baths
Fireplace
1664 sq. ft.
Sunny Backyard

Price Reduced
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NEW LISTING



4 Bowles Place, Crocker Highlands

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Excellent location in Crocker Highlands. This wonderful home features a beautiful living room with large architectural wooden windows, hardwood floors and a fireplace. The kitchen is new and is adjacent to the formal dining room. The home features three bedrooms, two and one half baths with two plus rooms. Great outdoor space on a spacious property. Two-car attached garage.

Offered at \$699,000



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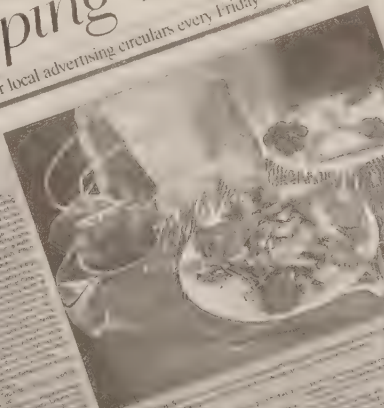
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1104 Spruce, Berkeley
Open Sunday, 2-4

Just listed! 4 bdrm, 4 bath 1914 masterpiece in need of restoration. Extensive original redwood details; box-beam ceilings, plate rails, dramatic spindle staircase & built-ins galore. Hammered copper sconces and original oak leaf frieze tile. All upper bdrms feature sleeping porches. \$905,000. Bill & Tracy 524-9888 x33



Coming Soon - Glenview

Spacious Prairie Style 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath w/ lvl, grassy bkdy. Bay windows, hwd flrs, bld-ins, frpl, lrg granite kit, formal dining w/ boxed ceilings, solid oak library or office w/ French doors, mstr suite w/ beautifully tiled bath updated w/ new windows & retrofitted. Open Sun., Apr. 13, 1-4:30. \$725,000. Chris Ehlers-Hardie 524-9888 x22



1330 Campus Drive, Berkeley
Open Sunday, 2-4

Bay View home nestled in Live Oak & Bay trees creates a secluded setting for this exciting home. It features 3 bdrms, 2 baths, plus recreation rm or family rm & separate, detached studio or office. This home is perfect for the person that appreciates beautiful oak & mahogany clad walls & floors. The skylight & vaulted ceiling of the tiled gallery entry will draw you into this dramatic experience. \$699,000. Terese Ashman 524-9888 x11



466 Hudson, Rockridge
Open Sunday, 2-4

This stunning craftsman bungalow within easy access to Market Hall, all College Ave. amenities and BART offers three generous sized bedrooms & 2 full bathrooms and remodeled kitchen. Brick fireplace, boxed beams, beveled glass hutch, wainscoting and more. An added bonus is the artist studio and well tended yard. \$649,000. Joan Brunswick 524-9888 x12



1217 Carlotta, Berkeley
Open Sunday, 2-4

2 bdrms, 1 bath. A superb combination of original details & sensitive upgrades makes this home one of Berkeley's treasures. Leaded-glass built-ins, crown moldings, hwd flrs. Period-sensitive kitchen & bath remodel combines modern Sub-Zero refrigerator, a Dacor range & skylights with restoration details. Breath-taking gardens. Great location. \$550,000. Bill & Tracy 524-9888 x33



1213 Masonic Ave., Berkeley
Open Sunday, 2-4

Just Listed! Immaculate, sweet 2-bdrm home very close to Albany border. Close to Monterey Market, shops & BART. Beautiful, updated eat-in kitchen & bathroom. Hwd floors, updated electrical. Sliding glass doors open to fenced-in, private deck. \$359,500. Jane Allen 524-9888 x23



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—P. O. & C. O., Berkeley

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Open House - Sunday, April 6, 2003 1-5pm



Upper Rockridge
6224 Broadway Terr
Offered @ \$974,000

Nearly New "Mark Becker" Villa

This recently built home by renowned Builder Mark Becker was inspired by the rich and dramatic architecture of Tuscany. You can almost envision this home nestled on a hillside in Italy. Yet here it is, in our very own special neighborhood of Upper Rockridge. Mark's signature subtle style and elegance awaits you in your new home and as always no detail was overlooked, from the limestone countertops to hand-plastered walls and softly arched ceilings. Everywhere you look there is evidence that great craftspeople plied their craft to the highest standards with the finest quality materials. Limestone, rich Douglas fir wood flooring, pine cabinetry, gourmet quality appliances, Mediterranean tile roofing, and lighting by "Metro" are just a few examples of the quality and character found in this wonderful home.

With 3 bedrooms and 2+ bathrooms, including a striking master suite, formal dining room, living room graced with a hand plastered fireplace, views of the Golden Gate Bridge, 2 car garage, and a media/family room, this home truly offers you the chance to own the home of a "lifetime".

If you are looking for a convenient location and access to one of Oakland's best public schools then look no farther. Located in Upper Rockridge and still close to College Avenue shops and restaurants, Freeways, BART, the Village Market and the Montclair shopping district, and of course Great Coffee is nearby.

www.6224BroadwayTerr.com

Ron Kriss, Realtor®/Partner
510-547-5970 Ext 55 ronkriss@jps.net



Rockridge
461 Cavour Street
Offered @ \$508,000

Sunny Starter Row House in Rockridge

Visit this wonderful Rockridge Starter Home. It features 2 bedrooms, and an updated bathroom. The traditional floor plan and nice architectural detailing are some of the reasons we love these classic homes. Beautiful hardwood floors, a spacious living room, formal dining room with a built-in China cabinet, and a sunny eat-in kitchen, with a cozy butler's workspace will really let you feel at home. The interior is freshly painted and the high ceilings really add to the spaciousness.

The yard is truly amazing. It is like having your own park in the backyard. With a wonderful warm Southern exposure you will always feel like you are on vacation at home. There is room for everything here, a relaxing patio area, raised beds for the veggies, a big lawn space for croquet, and there is still plenty of space for the flower garden. Your friends & family may never want to leave after your next garden party.

There is a ton of storage in the partial basement along with a laundry room, new and updated systems, and a very low termite report. This home has been lovingly maintained and is ready for you to move right in.

This home is located in the Heart of Rockridge on a friendly street with one of Rockridge's best annual block parties. Your new home is close to all the Great Shops and Restaurants on College Avenue, BART and Casual Carpooling - making the commute to SF a snap. You will love the wonderful East Bay Weather and Gallons of Great Coffee nearby.

www.461Cavour.com



North Oakland
816 54th St
\$429,000

Wonderful North Oakland Home

This spacious home features 3 bedrooms and 2 full bathrooms all on one level. The kitchen is huge and could accommodate a large kitchen island and play space for children as you work in the kitchen. The laundry room is located conveniently right off of the kitchen.

The back yard is extremely large and is ready for a large garden, lawn, or even expansion potential, not to mention all the new kitchen cabinet space.

There is no shortage of storage space. The detached garage, full basement, and pulldown stairs provide access to storage or even expansion potential, not to mention all the new kitchen cabinet space.

The current owners have completed a number of upgrades, including a new sewer line and drains under the house. The electrical system has been upgraded. Plumbing has been upgraded to copper. Furnace is 2 years old. Appliances are also new.

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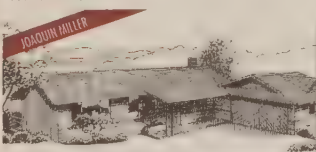


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3973 HANLY ROAD, OAKLAND
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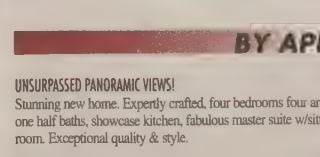
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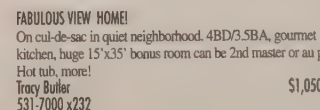
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SPORTS

• Friday, April 4, 2003 •

Section C

Coleman anchors strong El Cerrito performance

She is named the top female runner of Martinez Relays after helping the Gauchos win three races

By Phil Jensen
STAFF WRITER

MARTINEZ — Deer Valley High School's Ashley Vallis ran a time of 1:49.7, as Coleman ran a swift 200 meters. Tasha Mizel and Ashley Lodree started with 100-meter runs, then Coleman ran her leg and handed off to Kavina Hall, who finished the final 400 meters.

PREP TRACK

Trailing Piedmont's Naomi Sparks by 30 meters entering her 800-meter anchor leg, Vallis stayed relatively close then made a move with 250 meters to go. Vallis, a sophomore, caught Sparks in the last 100 meters and finished with an outstanding split of 2 minutes, 15 seconds, in the Wolverines' victory.

An apprehension of the unexpected fueled Vallis, who qualified last season for the California Interscholastic Federation

State Championships in the 800. "I don't know who I'm running against (in this meet). Everybody out here is equal in talent to me," Vallis said. "You never know if (Sparks) will put on the jets.

"When the second lap came, I said 'I have nothing to lose.' I gave it all I had."

Vallis was one of many impressive performers at the Martinez Relays.

San Ramon Valley's Allison Falk soared 5 feet, 8 inches in the high jump, the top mark in the competition and one of the top

marks in the North Coast Section this season.

"I was really surprised when I cleared it," said Falk, a sophomore, who was named the female field event athlete of the meet. Falk opened at 4-9 and negotiated her way through 5-8.

San Ramon Valley finished second in the high jump to Alameda. In this all-relay meet, three athletes from each school compete as a team in field events, except in the pole vault, where two athletes compete as a team.

El Cerrito's Monique Coleman was selected as the female track

athlete of the meet after running legs for the Gauchos' victorious 400, sprint medley and 800 relay teams. El Cerrito set a meet record in the sprint medley with a time of 1:49.7, as Coleman ran a swift 200 meters. Tasha Mizel and Ashley Lodree started with 100-meter runs, then Coleman ran her leg and handed off to Kavina Hall, who finished the final 400 meters.

Coleman also ran an impressive anchor in the 1,600 relay, but it left her just yards short of victory. Carondelet anchor Danielle Andrade's gutsy performance

with a 1:02.5 400 split to hold off Coleman, who trailed by 35 yards when she took the baton. Andrade was joined by teammates Katie Skorupa (1:01.4), Teirra Ward (58.7) and Katie Haug (1:03.5) in the 4:05.9 win that solidified the Cougars' team championship.

Carondelet finished with 55 points, 13 more than second-place College Park. The Cougars have won four straight invitations this season, said coach Terrell Ward.

See TRACK, Page 2

CCAL NOTEBOOK

Gauchos finally beat Hornets

By Orlando Molina
STAFF WRITER

Ever there was an important win for the El Cerrito High School boys tennis team this season, it was the victory over Alameda on March 27.

Gauchos' coach Gail Pavlich led the 4-3 victory as El Cerrito's first ever against the Hornets.

"It was a real historic win," Pavlich said, giving much of the credit to her No. 4 singles player Thom Gossette.

Gossette, a senior, faced the Hornets' Paul Shin in the last match of the day. With both teams engrossed in the contest, he witnessed Gossette splitting the first two sets and then winning the third for a 6-4, 6-7 (5), 6-2 win.

The match was played with great courage and determination. It was the kind of tennis where you've got to just say, 'Wow.' They were both so evenly matched," Pavlich said. "It came down to who wanted it more and who had the character."

Baseball — Since transferring from Skyway, Encinal shortstop Daniel Bethel has made his presence strongly felt in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League season. His latest heroics came last night when his two-run home run in the sixth inning was the

See ACCAL, Page 2

AL NOTEBOOK

Relays will feature some good duels

By Scott Strain
STAFF WRITER

The annual Oakland Invitational Relays come to Cal's Edwards Stadium on Saturday, and if previous meets are any indicator, this year's edition will be as exciting as any.

The meet starts at 8:30 a.m. with the girls long jump and ends in the final heat of the boys 400-meter relay at 5:45 p.m. The first running event will be the girls distance medley relay at 9 a.m.

There are going to be some good duels in these events, some involving top BSAL athletes. For example, Holy Names will square off with Carondelet and Alameda-L.A. in the fast heat of the girls sprint medley relay. The Hornets shared the top qualifying time with the Cougars at 1:49.7, 44 seconds.

The best duel of the day might be the girls 400-meter relay. Holy Names has run a 47.2 qualifying mark compared with Logan's 48.3. Both times were run at the Stanford Invitational. The Colts' Cherl Craddock firmly broke the playing basketball, broke their own meet record.

See BSAL, Page 2

Underella grows up

A new Masquers production reworks the classic fairy tale into a story for adults.

Focus on Chile

■ Program of events in Berkeley this week mark 30 years since the military overthrow of Chilean president Salvador Allende. Page C3

It's showtime

■ Capsule reviews and showing times are your guide to going to the movies. Page C4

Media Notes

■ With some exceptions, broadcast outlets offer little open debate on the topic of the Middle East. Page C5

PREP BASEBALL



GREGORY LIRQUIAGA/STAFF

ST. MARY'S Emanuel Mejia, left, is too late to tag out Salesian's Michael Ricchiuto in their BSAL game.

Bethel shuts down Panthers' bats

By Phil Jensen
STAFF WRITER

Kyle Bethel's pitching experience this season consisted of one inning in a scrimmage.

Until last Thursday. The Salesian High School senior, who had not pitched because of a sore right elbow, took the mound against St. Mary's with his team needing a win to stay close to the top of the Bay Shore Athletic League. Bethel came through, allowing one run on three hits in five innings, and Salesian scored four runs in its last two at-bats to beat the Panthers 5-2.

"It was awesome. It was a great performance for any out-

ing of the year," Salesian coach Travis Tarchione said. "He threw strikes — that's the key."

The host Chieftains (5-3, 2-1 BSAL) and St. Mary's (6-2, 1, 3-1) were both playing their second league game in two days. Coming off a 5-2 loss to John Swett on Wednesday, Salesian needed a win to stay close in the BSAL race. As it was, the Chieftains knocked St. Mary's out of first place, one-half game behind John Swett.

Bethel, who said that his elbow has been feeling fine for approximately a week, started on the mound and promptly retired the first six batters he faced. He pitched one-hit ball until the fifth

inning when two St. Mary's hits and Emanuel Mejia's sacrifice fly tied the score at 1-1. Salesian scored in the first inning on an RBI single by Daniel Moresco.

"I was pretty much trying not to walk anybody and let our defense make the plays," said Bethel, who struck out three batters and walked two. "I knew if my arm wouldn't hurt, I'd be able to go for a while."

It didn't, and Bethel threw 68 pitches in five innings. "Bethel was pretty much throwing strikes all day," St. Mary's coach Andy Shimabukuro said. "I give him credit. He did a good job today."

Salesian got some breathing

room in the bottom of the fifth inning with two runs, keyed by an RBI single from Randy Renn. Robert Van Looy relieved Bethel in the sixth inning, and after St. Mary's narrowed the score to 3-2 on an RBI double by Andy Lawson, Van Looy pitched no-hit ball for his final 1½ innings with three strikeouts to earn a save.

The Chieftains increased their lead to 5-2 in the bottom of the sixth inning with two runs, including an RBI double by Renn. He produced three hits in the game, as did Salesian leadoff batter Michael Ricchiuto. Spencer Winton had two hits to pace St. Mary's.

El Cerrito jumps on Berkeley early and hangs on

By Joe Stiglich
STAFF WRITER

El Cerrito High School baseball coach Steve Werren said he anticipated a low-scoring, competitive game between his team and Berkeley last Friday at San Pablo Park.

So much for hunches. What looked like a great matchup on paper turned into a convincing 10-7 Gauchos win, a score that doesn't reflect how one-sided the game was.

Only a five-run rally by Berkeley in the bottom of the seventh made the final outcome respectable.

The victory was no doubt a confidence builder for El Cerrito, which is tied for first place in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League with De Anza and Encinal at 2-0.

The Gauchos (5-3 overall) received contributions from up and down their lineup and got the best of Berkeley left-hander Sean

Souders, a three-year starter who has signed with Wake Forest. "(Souders) is a good pitcher," Werren said.

"I came in thinking this would be a close, low-scoring game. As it turned out, we got some hits at critical times."

The loss capped a tough week for Berkeley (5-5-1, 1-2 ACCAL), which entered the season as the league favorite but now looks very vulnerable.

The Yellow Jackets played Deer Valley to a 10-inning, 3-3 tie in a nonleague game Monday and then dropped an ACCAL matchup to De Anza 6-2 on Wednesday.

Souders (1-3) gave up just three earned runs Friday but was not particularly sharp.

He walked three and hit two batters, one with the bases loaded in the fifth inning.

Berkeley also committed three errors.

"It's early, but we certainly

need to start winning league ballgames," Berkeley coach Tim Moellerling said.

"We need to be better prepared in the mental aspect. We're giving teams too many extra bases off us."

Nick Gray ripped a two-run triple to left-center to put El Cerrito up 2-0 in the second.

After Berkeley closed to within one, the Gauchos scored three times in the fifth to go up 5-1.

Greg Murray (2-1) went six strong innings to get the win for El Cerrito.

He also came up big at the plate in the sixth.

After Souders was pulled from the game, Murray hit the first pitch from Berkeley reliever Walker Toma for a towering two-run homer to left.

That blast keyed a four-run rally that broke the game open and gave El Cerrito a comfortable 9-1 lead.

"Today we were able to break out," Werren said.

Those extra runs came in handy when the Yellow Jackets scored five times in the bottom of the seventh after Murray was pulled from the mound.

Erik Johnson brought one run home on a fielder's choice to make it 10-3.

Then with the bases loaded and two outs, Jon Smith hit a grand slam to center field that brought the Yellow Jackets to within 10-7.

El Cerrito center fielder Josh Harvey nearly made an outstanding catch on the ball, crashing through a makeshift fence in center going after it.

Smith had a huge game, going 4-for-4 with six RBIs.

He also made an incredible sliding catch in center field in the fourth to rob El Cerrito's Kevin Stewart of extra bases.

ON DECK

Prep baseball

■ Salesian at Albany, 3:30 p.m. today — The Chieftains travel to face a surging Cougars squad

■ John Swett at St. Mary's, 3:30 p.m. today — A battle for first place in the BSAL, as the Indians try to bounce back from their first loss in league play.

Prep softball

■ Albany at Salesian, 3:30 p.m. today — The Chieftains will attempt to stay undefeated in the BSAL against a Cougars squad that has a two-game winning streak.

Boys track and field

■ Oakland Invitational, 8:30 a.m. Saturday — Hurdler Jason Bolden-Anderson of St. Mary's and distance runner Alex Enscoe of Berkeley are among the scheduled competitors in this elite meet

Girls track and field

■ Oakland Invitational, 8:30 a.m. Saturday — El Cerrito's Ashley Lodree (hurdles/relays) and Monique Coleman (sprints/relays) are among the scheduled competitors at this outstanding meet.

Boys golf

■ St. Patrick vs. St. Mary's, Mira Vista CC, 3:15 p.m. Tuesday — Two of the top programs in the BSAL face each other.

Stars of the week

■ Michael Gonzalez, El Cerrito boys volleyball — Gonzalez opened his big week with a school-record 54 kills and five blocks in the Gauchos 15-17, 15-2, 16-14, 8-15, 17-15 victory over Lincoln-San Francisco. He then pounded 31 kills and nine aces in El Cerrito's 15-9, 15-9, 15-6 win over Richmond and added 14 kills in the Gauchos' 15-5, 15-5, 15-5 victory over Hercules.

■ Jason Bolden-Anderson, St. Mary's track and field — Bolden-Anderson produced two second-place finishes in the prestigious Stanford Invitational on Saturday. He finished second in the 110-meter high hurdles (14.46 seconds) and the 400 hurdles (56.38).

■ Monique Coleman, El Cerrito girls track and field — Coleman was named the female track athlete of the meet at the Martinez Relays after running legs for three victorious Gauchos' squads. El Cerrito won the 400-meter, sprint medley and 800 relays, and set a meet record in the sprint medley.

BRIEFS

Soccer tryouts

The Alameda-Contra Costa Youth Soccer League will hold tryouts for its boys and girls Class I Mavericks teams in April as follows:

Under-15 boys: Sunday, April 6 at Anderson 1, 10 a.m.; Sunday, April 13 at Fielding West, 10 a.m.

Under-16 boys: Sunday, April 6 at Anderson 1, noon; Sunday, April 13 at Fielding West, noon.

Under-17 boys: Sunday, April 6 at Anderson 1, 2 p.m.; Sunday, April 13 at King, 1 p.m.

Under-18/19 boys: Sunday, April 6 at Anderson 1, 4 p.m.; Sunday, April 13 at King, 3 p.m.

Under-15 girls: Sunday, April 6 at Fielding West, 10 a.m.; Sunday, April 13 at Anderson 1, 10 a.m.

Under-16 girls: Sunday, April 6 at Fielding West, noon; Sunday, April 13 at Anderson 1, noon.

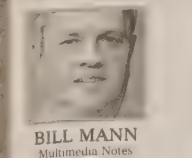
Under-17 girls: Sunday, April 6 at King, 1 p.m.; Sunday, April 13 at Anderson 1, 2 p.m.

Under-18/19 girls: Sunday, April 6 at King, 3 p.m.; Sunday, April 13 at Anderson 1, 4 p.m.

Players should arrive 30 minutes

See BRIEFS, Page 2

Arts



The middle ground

Like most people in this country and, I suspect, even here in the Bay Area, I'm a political moderate. Even though I come from a military family, I opposed the current war. But now that we're in it, I'm unashamedly pulling for our troops.

The time for protests, it seems to me, was before the war started — at what point did a protest become a tantrum? But saying that, I still believe this war is an unwise use of our powerful military, given that no link between 9/11 was ever established by the president. On the other hand, if mass murderer Saddam is killed, I'd be satisfied.

But I am appalled when a proposed news operation — the right-winger Rupert Murdoch's Fox News Channel — becomes an unabashed Bush cheerleader. I feel the same way when I turn on Berkeley's PFA and hear people supporting a thug like Saddam.

There's no question the wing controls most of talk radio in this country. Even a political moderate like KGO's Ronn Owens here has been used to a political partisan in his specious and sometimes snarling defense of the president.

This is one of the few things in the country where the point of view can even be heard on the radio," says KPFA-FM talk host Michael Krasny.

This sense of fairness led Krasny to book retired Lt. Colonel Gil Ferguson on his "Forum," the other When Ferguson, a state official, called Oakland presswoman Barbara Lee, he has voted against every resolution, a "Communist sympathizer," the normally confrontational Krasny heard enough.

"That sounds like McCarthyism to me," Krasny told Ferguson, who'd also called Lee a "ine-cutter," referring to her role in the Venceremos Brigade. "The vast majority of the people who went to Cuba were not Communists," Krasny told Ferguson.

There's so much polarization in this country right now," Krasny told me later, sighing. "But he's right. And a big part of it is due to the media." In her first-rate book, "The Argument Culture," the well-read Deborah Tannen ("He Said, She Said") posited that much of today's broadcast media, especially (but not exclusively) talk radio, promotes confrontation as "good entertainment."

This is damaging enough in normal times, but during a war, argue it is damaging to society and even unpatriotic.

The female Fox anchor who hosted a prosecutorial, hostile interview when questioning Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle the other day brings no light to discussion of this controversy, only heat. There's no contradiction in Daschle's position that we should have never gone into this war and that it was a colossal foreign-policy mistake along with his position supporting U.S. troops in Iraq.

Painting dissidents as "apologists" or Saddam supporters summons up unpleasant memories of Vietnam, when the kind of nasty charges were made about those of us who opposed that war. In fact, there was so much divisiveness during those times the same kind I'm seeing developing now — that my wife and I moved to Canada, where the societal discourse, then as now, was much more civil. (All other Americans I met who went to beat the draft, I'd been disqualified from the draft and the draft after my leg from polio was discovered.)

As damaging as the astronomical political climate was in the 1960s, it would have been worse if we'd had polarized media forces like Fox News' "hot" talk radio then.

Comments? E-mail Bill at bmanna@sonic.net



THE GROUP Inti-Illimani will be at the center of a series of events this week focusing on their homeland, Chile.

Chilean musicians recall different Sept. 11

By Brian Kluepfel
CORRESPONDENT

Sept. 11 is a day that will live forever in the collective memory of Chile. Thirty years ago a military junta overthrew Salvador Allende's democratically-elected regime, ringing in an era of repression and state-sponsored killings. Like New Yorkers, Chileans remember the date as a day that brought thousands of deaths.

The young members of Inti-Illimani were on the road in 1973 when the putsch occurred, and did not return to their country until 1990, when General Augusto Pinochet, the man who had ruled Chile with an iron fist, was voted out of office. Inti-Illimani spent the dictatorship years as vagabonds, bringing their message of musical liberation to the world.

This week Inti-Illimani recalls that era with a series of events and concerts in Berkeley. Through film and music, members of the group look back — and forward — at the land of their birth.

Not every musician had the fortune of being away from Chile when Pinochet's soldiers took

charge, and one well-known activist-singer paid with his life: Victor Jara, whose songs still speak to today's Latin American left. Jara, who has been commemorated in song not only in his native land but by singers such as Arlo Guthrie, was detained in Santiago's national stadium with thousands of others in the first days of the regime. He was tortured and eventually shot to death.

Members of Inti-Illimani remember their musical mentor at the screening of a documentary on Sunday. A new video-DVD production, "Victor Jara," will be screened at La Pena cultural center on Sunday, April 5. Audience members can participate in a question-and-answer session afterward, and proceeds benefit Chile's Victor Jara Foundation.

On Tuesday the music moves to UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall, where Inti-Illimani will demonstrate their skill on more than 30 instruments. The seven-member ensemble spent most of the exile in Italy, and sings songs in Italian as well as Spanish and Andean dialects.

Three new members — Juan Flores (bass), Manuel Merino

(guitar, tiple, vocals), and Christian González (flutes, quena, siku, zampona, cajon, guitarron, vocals) — join Jorge Coulon (guitar, tiple, rondador, zampona, hammered dulcimer, harp, vocals), Marcelo Coulon (guitar, quena, piccolo, flute, vocals), Daniel Cantillana (violin, vocals), Horacio Duran (charango, cuatro, percussion, vocals) and Efrén Manuel Viera (percussion, clarinet, saxophone, vocals).

The group will be featuring tracks from their latest CD, "Lugares Comunes," recorded in Santiago last summer for Xenophile Records.

Inti-Illimani's travels have allowed collaboration with a number of musicians, including Pete Seeger, George Grassens, Mikis Theodorakis, Mercedes Sosa and Roberto De Simone. On Amnesty International's 1988 "Human Rights Now" tour, they shared the stage in Argentina with Sting, Bruce Springsteen, Wynton Marsalis, Peter Gabriel and U2. Unlike some of their musical counterparts, they knew all too well the pain of human rights abuses in their own country.

Berkeley has a special place in the hearts of Inti-Illimani. Its

members were given a Human Rights Award by the UC Berkeley in 1997, and the group has been declared an "Honorable Guest" in many cities of the world, including Berkeley.

On Thursday, one of Inti-Illimani's founding members, Horacio Duran, makes the trek back to La Pena for an intimate charango concert. The duet concert features Duran, considered a master of the small ten-stringed instrument, and Italo Pedrotti, a younger charanguista also known for his virtuoso playing.

Finally on Friday, a week-long Chilean cultural odyssey ends at La Pena with Grupo Raiz, some locally-based Andean musicians who often gather in an informal setting at the adjoining Cafe Valparaíso. Grupo Raiz features Quique Cruz, who left Chile in 1976 and has lived in Canada and the United States, has performed with Jackson Brown, Pete Seeger and Alex DeGrassi, on guitar and flutes.

Brian Kluepfel is a freelance journalist who has lived in the 'burbs, the Bronx, Bolivia and Berkeley. He can be reached at bkluepfel@hotmail.com.

'Cinderella' reworked for savvy grown-ups



JACK TUCKER
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"CINDERELLA WALTZ," playing weekends at the Masquers Playhouse in Point Richmond, has a title that makes you think of a sticky-sweet musical reworking of the beloved old fairy tale published by the Brothers Grimm in the mid-19th century.

Put that image out of your mind.

It's a reworking, all right. But playwright Don Nigro's "fairy tale for adults" upends — in some cases quite literally — the story of poor little put-upon Cinderella (now called Rosey), her spiteful sisters, mean stepmother, wonderful fairy godmother (now called Mother Magee) and the essential Prince, and shakes them up into a boisterous comedy, with humor bordering at times on pratfall physicality.

The result, after loosening up from a slow start, is an energetic, charmingly impudent and funny take-off on the older story, showing some characters in an unexpected light.

Rosey, played by Alexandra Creighton, is spunkier than the usual Cinderella without losing the we're-pulling-for-you compassion of the audience.

For plot reasons, which won't be detailed here, there's Zed, the village idiot who's actually smarter than he appears, played by the reliable Ben Or-



THE VILLAGE IDIOT (Ben Ortega) and Rosey (Alexandra Creighton) ponder life among the pigs in Don Nigro's "Cinderella Waltz" at Masquers Playhouse through May 3.

ttega, whose precise shading provides a satisfying twist to the tale.

For pure bravura, Karen Lynne Horn, in a memorable debut at the Masquers Playhouse, wins the force-of-nature nod as the fairy godmother: A piece of work that will forever change your idea about this staple character of fantasy.

Don Hansen provides a comic walk-on — and on ... and on — as Rosey's father, who comes out periodically in a red nightshirt looking for his pants. The running gag in the end becomes a funny sight gag. Michael Haven directs the

spirited cast, which also includes Linda Ellinwood, Christina Angelos, Diana Godet, Charles Evans and Patrick Dowling.

The play gets a great boost from the production crew, which created a realistic set (Rob Bradshaw and John Hull), costumes (Linda Woody-Wood), make-up and wigs (Robert Love), millinery (Jo Lusk) and sound design and choreography (Claudine Jones).

"Cinderella Waltz" plays at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays through May 3, with Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. on April 6, 13 and 27. Tickets are \$13.

Call 510-232-4031.

VAUDEVILLIANS IN MARIN: "The Sunshine Boys," Neil Simon's affectionate if bittersweet salute to the glory days of vaudeville, continues weekends through April 13 at The Barn Theatre, Marin Arts & Garden Center, in Ross.

The Ross Valley Players production, directed by Jonathan Luskin, is Simon-pure nostalgia. Alas, not many people remain who remember live vaudeville. And this comedy tries to revive the era only in a slight sketch rehearsed by two

See THEATER, Page C5

EVENTS

STAGE

ASHKENAZ — Josh Kornbluth, April 10, 8 p.m. The monologist will perform his new one-man show, "Red Dipper Baby."

\$12. 1317 San Pablo Avenue, Berkeley 510-525-5055 or www.ashkenaz.com.

CONTRA COSTA CIVIC THEATRE — "Annie" by Thomas Meehan, Charles Strouse, Martin Charnin, April 11 through May 24. The classic musical set during the Great Depression features Annie, a young girl taught by the school of hard knocks and an orphan living in the orphanage run by the cruel Miss Hannigan. Annie escapes and ends up living the good life with billionaire Daddy Warbucks \$15. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito 510-524-9132.

EIGHT STREET STUDIO THEATRE — "Oedipus Rex" adaptation by Nicholas Rudall, closing April 6. Featuring the cast of Shotgun Players and guest performers from Darvag, this is a soulful translation of the famous Greek drama.

\$18 general; \$12 seniors and students \$20 opening night with reception, \$10 Thursdays. Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m. 2525 Eighth St., Berkeley 510-704-8210 or www.shotgunplayers.org

IMPACT THEATRE — "Scab" by Sheila Callaghan, closing April 5. The story of Anna, who is falling in love with her roommate and best friend, Christa. Meanwhile, Christa is secretly sleeping with Anna's ex-boyfriend \$15 general; \$10 seniors and students Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m. La Val's Subterranean Theatre, 1834 Euclid St., Berkeley 510-464-4468 or www.impacttheatre.com

MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE — "Cinderella Waltz" by Don Nigro, through May 3. This takes the story of Cinderella and her Prince and little further. It examines the idea of love being something different and possibly dangerous \$13. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.; April 6, April 13 and April 27, 2:30 p.m. 105 Park Place, Richmond 510-232-4031 or www.masquers.org

THEATREFIRST — "The Great Celestial Cow" by Sue Townsend, closing April 6. A humorous and touching story of a family emigrating from India to England in the 70s \$16 to \$19 general; \$3 off for students, seniors; half-price for under 25. Oakland YWCA, 1515 Webster, Oakland 510-436-5085 or www.theatrefirst.com

SHOTGUN PLAYERS — "The Vampires" by Harry Kandel, April 12 through May 10. A play that falls in the magical-surrealist genre, about a carpenter who would rather create art, his wife who supports and undermines her husband and a costume designer who thinks her husband is a vampire. They go about their lives living the constant dilemma of good versus evil \$18 general; \$12 children and seniors. Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 7 p.m. La Val's Subterranean Theatre, 1834 Euclid Ave., Berkeley 510-655-0813 or www.shotgunplayers.org.

POPULAR MUSIC

ASHKENAZ — Steve Lucky and The Rhumba Bums with Ms. Carmen Getti, April 9, 9:30 p.m. \$13.

Toasters, Warsaw, Go Jimmy Go and Codename Rocky, April 5, 8:30 p.m. \$10 to \$12

Baba Ken and The Nigerian Brothers, April 6, 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. \$5 general; \$3 children.

Courtaubeau, April 8, 8 p.m. \$9.

Red Archibald and The Internationals, April 9, 9 p.m. \$9.

Wah! Gad, Jah Bandis, Jr. Toots,

Ashanti Hifi, April 11, 9:30 p.m. \$12

California Friends of Louisiana French Music, April 12, 1:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. \$5 to \$8.

Kotoja, April 12, 9:30 p.m. \$13.

1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley 510-525-5055 or www.ashkenaz.com.

BLAKE'S ON TELEGRAPH — Jethro Jeremiah Band, Dan Man Shank, April 4.

Lavish Green, Dr Masseur, Habit of Mine, April 5.

End on Nine, Moodstack, Endure, April 6.

Spank, April 10.

Solerite, April 12.

Sun Masons, Boomshanka, Reorchestra, April 13.

\$3 to \$10 general unless otherwise noted. For ages 18 and older. Music at 9:30 p.m. 2367 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley 510-848-0888 or www.blakesontelegraph.com.

BECKETT'S IRISH PUB — Stirling Dervish, April 4.

Nicole McFory, April 5.

Shots, April 10.

Seventy, April 11.

Nicole McFory, April 12.

Free. For ages 21 and older. Music at 9:30 p.m. unless noted. 2271 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-647-1790 or www.beckettsirishpub.com.

CATO'S ALE HOUSE — Grey Pawn Trio, March 30.

Christopher Gampier Trio with Michael Emenau, April 2.

Jose Roberto y Sus Amigos, April 5.

Dr. Abacus, April 6.

Irish Session, April 9. Irish music led by fiddler Brian Thernault and various traditional musicians.

Motion Trio, April 12.

Casini Mission, April 13.

Free. Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. 3891 Piedmont Ave., Oakland 510-655-3349 or www.mrcato.com.

DOWNTOWN — Danny Caron and Friends, April 4.

Sylvia and the Silvertones, April 5.

Mimi Fox, April 8.

Jules Broussard and Ned Boynton, April 9.

See EVENTS, Page C5

NOW PLAYING

Below are capsule reviews of movies playing at area theaters. The reviewers are Mary F. Pols, Times; Robert W. Butler, Christine Dolen, Karen Heller, Chris Hewitt and Connie Ogle, Knight Ridder Newspapers; Glenn Lovell, Bruce Newman, San Jose Mercury News; David Garman, Christy Lamire, Ben Nuckols, Malcolm Ritter and Matt Wolf, Associated Press; Bruce Westbrook, Houston Chronicle; Jan Stuart, Newsday; Stephen Holden, Dave Kehr, Elvis Mitchell, A.O. Scott and Lawrence Van Gelder, New York Times; Jack Matthews, New York Daily News; Evan Henerson, Valerie Kuklinski, Fred Shuster, Bob Strauss and Glenn Whipp, Los Angeles Daily News; Manolia Dargis, Kevin Thomas and Kenneth Turan, Los Angeles Times; Nancy Churnin, Gary Dowell, Charles Ealy, Tom Maustard, Chris Vogner, Matt Weitz and Philip Wuntch, Dallas Morning News; Christopher Kelly and Robert Philpot, Fort Worth Star-Telegram; Jay Boyar, Roger Moore, Orlando Sentinel; Joe Batake, Sacramento Bee; Ann Hornaday and Stephen Hunter, Washington Post.

"ABOUT SCHMIDT": If you love Jack Nicholson, seeing Alexander Payne's ("Electron") dark and rather mournful comedy should be high on your list. It features the actor in a state of mind in which we rarely see him: vulnerable, soul-searching and compromising in a way that ordinary people must often

be. He is Nebraskan Warren Schmidt, recently retired and widowed, and realizing how futile his life has been. Only one means to salvation: Stop his daughter (Hope Davis) from marrying a doofus waterbed salesman (Dermot Mulroney). — M. Pols. (R: language and brief nudity) 2 hours, 4 minutes. A

"ADAPTATION": This latest collaboration from director Spike Jonze and screenwriter Charlie Kaufman, the "Being John Malkovich" team, is a heady, happy jumble of thought and storytelling, an insane comic undertaking that ultimately coheres into a sane and breathtakingly creative film. Ostensibly, it's about adapting Susan Orlean's book, "The Orchid Thief," to film, with Nicolas Cage doing double duty as the tortured screenwriter and his more successful twin brother. Add to this Maryl Streep as the author, doing shockingly un-Streepian things, and an Oscar-winning performance by Chris Cooper ("Lone Star"). — M. Pols. (R: language, sexuality, some drug use and violent images.) 1 hour, 52 minutes. A

"AGENT CODY BANKS": The plot, such as it is, concerns Cody (Frankie Muniz), a middle-class Seattle teen who attends secret spy camp and is hired by the CIA to court Natalie (Hilary Duff), daughter of the richest absent-minded scientist in movie history, unwittingly in cahoots with evil guys threatening to — what else? — take

over the world. This movie is written and directed on auto-pilot, containing every cliché endemic to these movies: clueless parents, bratty brother, nasty rich kids, pool fight, food fight, girls who can't drive. — K. Heller. (PG: action violence, mild language, sexuality.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. D

"AMANDLA! A REVOLUTION IN FOUR PART HARMONY": This documentary about the toppling of apartheid and South Africa's long struggle for liberation from white domination threads together interviews and archival clips with a percolating soundtrack. Director Lee Hirsch makes the case that musical expression was central to the push for self-determination. Every chapter in the often brutal, ultimately triumphant saga is accompanied by songs of defiance, mourning, pride and despair. — A.O. Scott. (PG-13: scenes of rioting and police brutality, and discussions of torture.) 1 hour, 43 minutes. B+

"BOAT TRIP": This film is juvenile enough to suck away a few IQ points. Jerry (Cuba Gooding Jr.) and Nick (Horatio Sanz) are two lunkheads who mistakenly end up on a gay cruise. Jerry, distraught over losing the affections of Felicia (Vivica A. Fox), meets Woman of His Dreams No. 2 (Roselyn Sanchez), the only female staff member aboard. She seems to like him, but then, she thinks he's gay. So Jerry decides to pretend to be gay be-

cause ... well, because if he didn't, we wouldn't get to see all the high jinks that ensue. — C. Ogle. (R: strong sexual content, language, some drug material.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. D-

"BOWLING FOR COLUMBINE": Just hours before they killed a dozen classmates and a teacher at Columbine High School, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold went bowling. Was there a connection? Is it logical to blame the sport or, for that matter, any single thing for America's violent nature? "Bowling for Columbine" doesn't have the answers, and really doesn't expect to find them. — K. Turan. (R: some violent images and language.) 1 hour, 59 minutes. B

"BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE": This is one high-concept please-the-masses comedy that works. Uplight Peter Sanderson (Steve Martin) is a divorced father of two. His job as tax attorney at a stuffy law firm allows no time to connect with his kids. Longing for some semblance of romance, he arranges a rendezvous with an alleged Ivy League female attorney he befriended on the Internet. But Charlene Morton (Queen Latifah) turns out to have a criminal record instead of a law degree, though she maintains her innocence. She teaches him to loosen up, talk the right lingo and establish street cred with his offspring. Everyone seems to have a good time. — P. Wuntch. (PG-13: language, drugs, sexuality, nudity, violence.) 1 hour, 45 minutes. B-

"CATCH ME IF YOU CAN": Director Steven Spielberg has pulled off a neat feat, with two cool movies in one year. He's likely to get more praise for the darkly futuristic "Minority Report," but the pleasure is all ours in this fleet-footed treat, based on a true story. Leonardo DiCaprio plays Frank Abagnale Jr., who began his career as a con artist as a teen in the '60s. With Tom Hanks as the workaholic FBI man who pursues him through bogus identities as a doctor and Pan Am pilot. — M. Pols. (PG-13: sexual content and brief language.) 2 hours, 20 minutes. A-

"CHICAGO": Why was it again that Hollywood stopped making movie musicals? Who decided we shouldn't leave a theater humming that catchy tune, fighting the urge to tap dance our way across the lobby? "Chicago" is the kind of uplifting, exhilarating movie that makes you ask these questions. Vastly talented Renée Zellweger even manages to upstage diva Catherine Zeta-Jones in this tawdry tale, originally based on true-crime cases and later made into a Broadway musical. — M. Pols. (PG-13: sexual content and dialogue, violence and thematic elements.) 1 hour, 53 minutes. A

"CITY OF GOD": Fernando Meirelles' scorching anecdotal history of violence in the slums of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, traces the decline of a neighborhood, Cidade de Deus (City of God), from a sun-baked shantytown

where children while away the days in soccer games and petty thievery into a shadowy slum teeming with armed adolescent warriors. The portrait of a boy soldier enlisting in a volunteer criminal army with an astronomical mortality rate is one of the movie's many profoundly unsettling images. Adapted from a best-selling novel by Paulo Lins, who grew up in Cidade de Deus, its narrator, Rocket (Alexandre Rodrigues), is a young photographer from the same neighborhood, whose loose-jointed yarns follow the fates of a number of his childhood acquaintances. — S. Holden. (R: scenes of violence and graphic sex talk.) 2 hours, 10 minutes. A-

"CRADLE 2 THE GRAVE": Jet Li starts stomping on henchmen. Rapper DMX tosses bad guys left and right. Tom Arnold and Anthony Anderson start shooting a cannon. This crazy-quilt martial arts thriller-comedy with a staggering body count is as idiotic as a committee of bad screenwriters could make it. They're all in pursuit of some mysterious black diamonds that DMX's rich, cool gang of jewel thieves has stolen. Li is the Taiwanese cop on the case. Mindless fun, with the emphasis on "mindless." — R. Moore. (R: violence, language, some sexual content.) 1 hour, 40 minutes. D-

"DAREDEVIL": This "Spider-Man" wannabe fails, largely thanks to how hard it is to take Ben Affleck as a superhero, let alone one as dark and angry as Daredevil. Stan Lee's 1964 creation. Thanks to a childhood crush with toxic waste, he's a blind lawyer by day, vigilante by night. He's supposed to be seething with the weight of the world, but he comes across instead as a yuppie ticked off at the dry cleaner who lost his Hugo Boss suit. Colin Farrell is an over-the-top treat as the villain, but neither he nor the lovely Jennifer Garner as the love interest is enough to save this picture. — M. Pols. (PG-13: action violence and some sensuality.) 1 hour, 36 minutes. D+

"DREAMCATCHER": Another adaptation of a Stephen King book where someone wears a terrifyingly deranged smile. The grin in this one, directed by Lawrence Kadane, isn't as spooky as Jack Nicholson's in "The Shining," but it's still effective. Four buddies with special powers encounter strange things while hunting in the Maine woods. There's a wonderful ominous quality to the film's first half, but it gets silly after that, too

reliant on special effects. Some relationships seem real, and the humor, even when it gets saccharine, is writer/director Todd Haynes, who bravely attacks nihil with the last weapon we've expected, a Douglas Sirk overwrought melodrama. The repressed 1950s, come. Technicolor palette and a classical score. Julianne Moore, a gracious Connecticut housewife, discovers that her loving husband (Dennis Quaid) is actually a

blast of air, albeit deliriously, on the skirts of the nuclear public. — M. Pols. (PG-13: thematic elements, sexual content, brief violence and language.) 47 minutes. A

"GANGS OF NEW YORK": 14 years, Martin Scorsese has taken us back to the days when New York City was the dangerous warring immigrants. The dramatic, passionate and laudable show young America at its mental, boiling over with big resentments, free of the glossy fiction often gives credit. It's unfortunate, then, that "Gangs" is based on a semi-journalistic book — never pulses with the life of the city. There's no sense that the biging forth actually comes from man being. Daniel-Day Lesman the show as Bill the Butcher, one gang, far outshining Leonardo DiCaprio as leader of the only Poles. (R: intense violence, sexual content and language.) 2 hours, 10 minutes. B-

"THE HOURS": Director Sally Daldry's film is based on the Prize-winning tribute to Virginia Woolf, which imagines her 1941 suicide how her fiction resonates in the of two women in the future. L. Moore and Meryl Streep are but Nicole Kidman is the shadow per as Woolf. She's been out with a fake nose: even her eyes are darker than usual, as if by the writer's mania. The convincing both as a genius of height of her craft, and as a desperate to escape the pain

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FRIDAY MOVIE LISTINGS

Showtimes for Friday April 4

Alameda County

Act 1 and 2

2128 Central Street, Berkeley 510-548-7249
Chaos (Not Rated) 6:45, 9:30.
Spun (Not Rated) 7, 9:45

Albany Twin

1115 Soano Ave. Albany 510-524-9568
Laurel Canyon (R) 2, 4:30, 7, 9:30
The Pianist (R) 1:45, 5, 8:15

AMC Bay Street 16

5814 Shellmound St., Emeryville 510-457-4262
Basic (R) 2:15, 4:35, 7:20, 8:45, 9:45, 11:15.
Boat Trip (R) 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:50, 10:15.
Bringing Down the House 1:45, 4:20, 7:20, 9:50.
Chicago (PG-13) 1:35, 4:30, 7:40, 10:20.
Dysfunctional Family (R) 1:45, 2:45, 3:55, 5, 6:10, 7:15, 8:15, 9:30, 10:30, 11:30.
Frida (R) 1, 3:30, 6:05.
A Man Apart (R) 1:10, 2:10, 3:40, 4:40, 6:10, 7:30, 8:45, 10:15, 11:20.
Old School (R) 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:10, 10:25.
Phone Booth (R) 1:05, 2:15, 3:10, 4:30, 5:15, 7, 8, 9:15, 10:15, 11:20.
The Pianist (R) 1, 4:15, 7:30, 10:45.
Spirited Away (PG) 1:20, 4:10, 7, 9:50.
What a Girl Wants (PG) 1:30, 2:30, 4, 5, 7:05, 8:45, 10:45.

California Theatre

2113 Kittredge St., Berkeley 510-848-0249
Basic (R) 7, 9:15.
Bowling for Columbine (R) 6:30, 9.
Dysfunctional Family (R) 7:15, 9:30.

Chabot Space & Science Center

10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland 510-336-7300
E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial: The 20th Anniversary (PG) 7:30.
The Human Bond (Not Rated) 11:30, 5:30.
The Living Sea (Not Rated) 3:30.
Mysteries of Egypt (Not Rated) 12:30.
To Fly! (Not Rated) 10:30, 2:30, 4:30.

Elmwood 3

2966 College Ave., Berkeley 510-849-0530
About Schmidt (R) 6:50.
Frida (R) 4:30, 9:10.
Gangs of New York (R) 8:30.
The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers (PG-13) 4:35, 8:05.
Rivers and Tides: Andy Goldsworthy Working with Time (Not Rated) 4:25, 6:30.

Renaissance Grand Lake Theatre

3200 Grand Avenue, Oakland 510-452-3556
Chicago (PG-13) 4:45, 7:15, 9:30.
Phone Booth (R) 12, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10.
Piglet's Big Movie (G) 11:45, 1:30, 3.
Spirited Away (PG) 11:45, 2:30, 5, 7:25, 9:45.
What a Girl Wants (PG) 11:30, 1:45, 4:15, 7, 9:15

Jack London Stadium

100 Washington, Oakland 510-433-1320
Agent Cody Banks (PG) 10:55, 1:10.
Basic (R) 11:40, 2, 4:20, 7:05, 9:30.
Bringing Down the House (PG-13) 12, 2:30, 5, 7:45, 10:15.
The Core (PG-13) 12:50, 4, 7:10, 10:10.
Dreamcatcher (R) 3:20, 6:05.
Dysfunctional Family (R) 11:15, 1:25, 3:35, 5:45, 7:55, 8:45, 10:05, 10:45.
Head of State (PG-13) 11:30, 1:50, 4:10, 7, 9:20.
A Man Apart (R) 11:20, 1:55, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55.
Phone Booth (R) 11, 1:05, 3:10, 5:15, 7:30, 9:35.
What a Girl Wants (PG) 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:50.

Renaissance Oaks Theatre

1875 Solano Ave., Berkeley 510-526-1836
Phone Booth (R) 6, 8, 9:45.
Piglet's Big Movie (G) 6:15.
Sandstorm (NR) 7:45.

Parkway Theater

1834 Park Blvd., Oakland 510-814-2400
25th Hour (R) 7.
Adaptation (R) 9:15.
The Hours (PG-13) 6:30.
Old School (R) 9:45.

Piedmont Theatre

4186 Piedmont Ave., Oakland 510-654-2758
Bowling for Columbine (R) 3:45, 9:45.
Laurel Canyon (R) 1:30, 4, 6:45, 9:15.
The Pianist (R) 12:30, 3:30.
The Quiet American (R) 1:15, 4:15, 7, 9:30.

Shattuck Cinemas

2230 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-844-2392
Amandla! A Revolution in Four Part Harmony (PG-13) 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:35.
Bend It Like Beckham (PG-13) 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10.
Cowboy Bebop: The Movie (R) 1:15, 4, 7, 9:45.

Divine Intervention (Not Rated) 12:30, 2:45, 4:55, 7:05, 9:15.
Dreamcatcher (R) 3:40, 9:25.
The Hours (PG-13) 1:40, 4:15, 6:45, 9:20.
The Quiet American (R) 12:15, 2:40, 5, 7:25, 9:50.
Rabbit-Proof Fence (PG) 12:20, 2:35, 5:05, 7:30, 9:45.
Spirited Away (PG) 1, 3:45, 6:30, 9:10.
Talk to Her (R) 1:10, 6:50.

United Artists Berkeley 7

2274 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-843-0193
Agent Cody Banks (PG) 11:55, 2:25, 4:55, 7:25, 9:45.
Chicago (PG-13) 12:05, 2:45, 5:10, 7:45, 10:15.
The Core (PG-13) 12:30, 3:30, 7, 10.
Head of State (PG-13) 12, 2:30, 5, 7:35, 10:30.
Old School (R) 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45.
What a Girl Wants (PG) 11:45, 12:25, 2:15, 3, 4:45, 5:30, 7:15, 8, 9:50, 10:25.

United Artists Emery Bay Stadium 10

6330 Christie Ave., Emeryville 510-420-0107
Agent Cody Banks (PG) 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 8.
The Core (PG-13) 12, 1:40, 3:30, 4:40, 7, 7:40, 10, 10:40.
Dreamcatcher (R) 12:10, 3:20, 7:20, 10:30.
Head of State (PG-13) 12, 12:40, 2:20, 3:10, 4:40, 5:40, 7:10, 8:10, 9:40, 10:40, 10:30.
The Hunted (R) 12:20, 2:40, 5:30, 8:20, 10:30.
Laurel Canyon (R) 12:10, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10.
Piglet's Big Movie (G) 12:30, 2:30, 4:50.
The Quiet American (R) 12:10, 2:30, 5, 7:40, 10.
Tears of the Sun (R) 10:20.
View From the Top (PG-13) 7:50, 10:10.

Central Contra Costa

Renaissance Orinda Theatre ★
 4 Orinda Theatre Sq., Orinda 925-254-9060
Bringing Down the House (PG-13) 1, 4:15, 7, 9:15.
Phone Booth (R) 12, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9:45.
The Pianist (R) 12:30, 4:15, 7:15.

Rheem Theatre

350 Park St., Moraga 925-988-3411
Basic (R) 12:20, 2:40, 4:50, 7:20, 9:30.
The Core (PG-13) 1, 4:20, 7, 9:35.
Quiet American (R) 12:10, 2:30, 4:40, 7:30, 9:40.
What a Girl Wants (PG) 12, 2:20, 4:30, 7:10, 9:25.

Renaissance Park Theatre

3519 Golden Gate Way., Lafayette 925-283-7997
Chicago (PG-13) 1:30, 4:15, 7, 9:30.

West Contra Costa

Century 16 Hilltop

3200 Klose Way, Richmond 510-758-9626
Agent Cody Banks (PG) 11:50, 2:15, 4:50.
Basic (R) 12:50, 3:15, 5:40, 7:25, 8, 9:40, 10:20.
Boat Trip (R) 10:25.
Bringing Down the House (PG-13) 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 10.
Chicago (PG-13) 11:25, 1:55, 4:35, 7:20, 9:50.
The Core (PG-13) 1, 4:05, 7:10, 10:15.
Dreamcatcher (R) 12:45, 4, 7:05, 10:10.
Dysfunctional Family (R) 11:20, 1:25, 3:35, 4:20, 5:40, 6:50, 7:45, 8:55, 9:55.
Head of State (PG-13) 12:05, 1:05, 2:25, 3:20, 4:40, 5:35, 6:55, 7:50, 9:15, 10:05.
A Man Apart (R) 11:40, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45.
Phone Booth (R) 11:10, 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30, 5:25, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30.
Piglet's Big Movie (G) 11:45, 1:50.
Spirited Away (PG) 11:30, 2:20, 5, 7:40.
What a Girl Wants (PG) 11:35, 12:35, 2, 3, 4:25, 5:30, 7, 7:55, 9:25, 10:20.

San Francisco

AMC Van Ness 14

1000 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco 415-922-4262
Adaptation (R) 2, 4:40, 7:20.
Basic (R) 2:30, 5:30, 7:55, 10:20.
Boat Trip (R) 10.
Bringing Down the House (PG-13) 2:25, 5:35, 8:10, 10:45.
The Core (PG-13) 1:05, 4:20, 7:30, 10:35.
Dreamcatcher (R) 1, 4:10, 7:25, 10:35.
Dysfunctional Family (R) 1:25, 3:40, 6, 8:15, 10:30.
Head of State (PG-13) 1:25, 5:50, 8:20, 10:55.
The Hours (PG-13) 7, 9:40.
The Hunted (R) 1:10, 3:30, 5:45, 8, 10:15.
A Man Apart (R) 1:40, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50.
Old School (R) 1:45, 5:55, 8:30, 10:50.
Phone Booth (R) 1:15, 3:15, 5:25, 7:35, 9:45.
Piglet's Big Movie (G) 1:10, 3:05, 5.

View From the Top (PG-13) 1:20, 3:30, 5:45, 8, 10:15.
What a Girl Wants (PG) 1:50, 4:35, 7:05, 9:55

AMC Kabuki 8

1881 Post St., San Francisco 415-931-9800
Basic (R) 2, 5:05, 7:50, 10:20.
Bringing Down the House (PG-13) 1:40, 4:40, 7:30, 10.
The Core (PG-13) 1, 4:05, 7:10, 10:15.
Head of State (PG-13) 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 9:40
A Man Apart (R) 1:50, 4:50, 7:40, 10:30.
Phone Booth (R) 1:20, 3:05, 5:20, 8, 10:10.
Spirited Away (PG) 1:10, 4, 7, 9:50.
What a Girl Wants (PG) 1:20, 4:15, 6:50, 9:30.

Bridge Theatre

3010 Geary Blvd., San Francisco 415-751-3213
The Quiet American (R) 4:40, 7:15, 9:45

Castro Theatre

429 Castro St., San Francisco 415-621-6120
Nowhere in Africa (Not Rated) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30.

Clay Theatre

2261 Fillmore St., San Francisco 415-346-1124
Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love PG (G).
The Pianist (R) 4:30, 8.

Embarcadero Center Cinemas

1 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco 415-352-0835
Bend It Like Beckham (PG-13) 12:10, 1, 2:35, 4, 5:05, 7, 7:30, 9:30, 10.
Bowling for Columbine (R) 1:20, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50.
Laurel Canyon (R) 12, 2:20, 4:50, 7:40, 10:10.
Talk to Her (R) 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 9:45.

Lumiere Theatre

1572 California St., San Francisco 415-885-3201
Assassination Tango (R) 1:45, 4:30, 7, 9:30.
Chaos (Not Rated) 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45.
Spun (Not Rated) 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10.

Opera Plaza Cinema

601 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco 415-771-0183
City of God (R) 4, 9:20.
Cowboy Bebop: The Movie (R) 1:40, 4:20, 7, 9:40.

Divine Intervention (Not Rated) 2:45, 5:15, 7:30, 9:50.
Far from Heaven (PG-13) 1:30, 6:45.
Spider (R) 2:30, 5, 7:15, 9:30.

The Red Vic Theatre

1727 Haight, San Francisco 415-668-3994
By Hook or by Crook (Not Rated) 7:15, 9:25.

The Roxie Theatre

3117 18th Al Valencia, San Francisco 415-863-1087
Gaza Strip (Not Rated) 5, 8.
The Hidden Wars of Desert Storm (Not Rated) 6:30, 9:30.

Loews Theatres Metreon

101 Fourth St., San Francisco 415-369-6200
Basic (R) 12:30, 3:20, 5:50, 8:30, 11:10.
Bringing Down the House (PG-13) 12:35, 3:35, 6:10, 9:10, 11:35.
Chicago (PG-13) 11, 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10.
The Core (PG-13) 12:50, 4:20, 7:30, 11.
Dreamcatcher (R) 12:20, 3:30, 6:40, 10:20.
Dysfunctional Family (R) 12:

Reviews

FROM PAGE C4

— M. Pols. (PG-13: mature thematic elements, some disturbing images, brief language.) 1 hour, 10 minutes. A

HOW TO LOSE A GUY IN 10

— Magazine writer (Kate Hudson) gets assignment to write about women drive men away in relationships. She chooses as her test subjects. An advertising executive (Andrew McConaughey) engaged in a love triangle, a bet to make a man fall in love with him. A funny, rather true, battle of the sexes comedy. Despite this fresh premise, "How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days" does not signal the salvation of the romantic comedy, since it is so dumpty and formulaic in its second half. It does, however, indicate that Julia Roberts can hand over the crown. Hudson, with her comic willingness to be goofy, and a bit as sunny, genuine and beguiling as Roberts, is the new princess of romantic comedy. You can feel the choice failing for her. — M. Pols. (PG-13: some sex-related material.) 1 hour, 10 minutes. B-

"THE HUNTED": Atrocious editing, implausible liberties and more than a few slappings than anyone could reasonably want to see. But worst offense is that the very fine Tommy Lee Jones appears to be playing a dog. He's human blood-lust. L.T. Bonham, a civilian with tracking and killing skills who is tracking countless government assassins. When one of his former star, Aaron (a mumbling, seemingly harassed Benicio Del Toro), goes off and becomes a menace, L.T. is summoned. He runs behind Aaron, his nose in the air as if he's picking up scents, wearing the eager, hard look of a retriever who fears his master's boss. Jones tries hard to sell but it's mortifying. — M. Pols. (R: strong, bloody violence and some language.) 1 hour, 34 minutes. D-

"THE JUNGLE BOOK 2": This sequel to Disney's 1967 animated treatment of the Rudyard Kipling tale has a lush Indian jungle looking a little better, and the leap into computer animation allows for some terrific images. Our hero, Mowgli (voiced by Joel Osment), is living in the jungle. He has plenty of friends, including his carefree jungle days (John Goodman), his beloved bear, feels the same and pays a visit. Mowgli's real dilemma is a tug between past and present. "Jungle Book 2" is aimed at younger kids, but, as always, the Disney folks put in some jokes aimed at parents. — C. Dolen. (G) 1 hour, 10 minutes. B+

"PIRE CANYON": Square medical student Sam (Christian Bale) had to move into his ultra-cool producer mom's (Frances McDormand) fabulous house in the hills of L.A. Mom was supposed to vouch instead she's cutting an all-out romping with her hot young boyfriend (Alessandroandro) and sending enticing vibes to Sam's allegedly uptight fiancée (Beckinsale). If you relish Vanity articles in which celebrity interviews are conducted at L.A.'s hip West Hollywood, then writer/director Producers' vacuous, elitist may please you. It too, implies your life would be more glorious were poolside, wearing Jean Paul Gaultier and enjoying a ciggie over wheat-grass shake. — M. Pols. (R: sexual, language and drug use.) 1 hour, 41 minutes. C-

"LIFE OF DAVID GALE": Director Parker has overwhelmed this scary thriller with a sermon about death penalty that is obvious and tedious. Kevin Spacey is the title character, a hot-headed Texas philosophy professor and outspoken death penalty abolitionist on death row for killing a fellow activist. He's at the end of his appeals, days from execution, when he decides to tell his magazine writer Bitsey Bloom

(Kate Winslet). The death penalty is an issue that deserves to be on the front burner of the national debate, but "David Gale" is neither the proper forum nor the winning argument its makers suppose it to be. — R. Moore. (R: violent images, nudity, language and sexuality.) 2 hour, 10 minutes. C-

"THE LION KING, IMAX: The Disney animated classic comes to the very big screen, but since everybody's seen it, who will go? Still, the colors are brighter than ever, and the soundtrack is a knockout, especially the orchestral arrangements of Elton John compositions. — R. Butler. (G) 1 hour, 30 minutes. B

"THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE TWO TOWERS": The second installment of director Peter Jackson's big-screen adaptation of J.R.R. Tolkien's great trilogy is as intoxicating as last year's "Fellowship." Jackson expertly weaves together three distinct journeys, taking as his centerpiece a scene in which Tolkien devoted only a dozen or so pages — the battle to defend Helm's Deep. It's a fantastic choice, one of the most thrilling battle scenes ever filmed. The special effects, most notably the computer-generated creature Gollum (voice and movements by Andy Serkis), are nifty, with the unfortunate exception of the Ents, who look a bit too much like Gumbys. — M. Pols. (PG-13: epic battle sequences and scary images.) 2 hours, 59 minutes. A-

"NICHOLAS NICKLEBY": Writer/director Douglas McGrath's heavily abridged version of Charles Dickens' classic moves with the unnatural briskness of someone who ingested bad Hunan shrimp at lunch. Characters dart on- and offscreen, solve each other's problems well before teatime, and drop dead with great efficiency. This isn't just the Cliffs Notes version of "Nicholas Nickleby," it's the Cliffs Notes with pages missing. McGrath ("Emma") has managed to cram some awfully sweet stuff into 132 minutes of screen time, however, and the movie is beautifully produced and acted by the likes of Christopher Plummer, Jim Broadbent, Tom Courtenay and Juliet Stevenson. — M. Pols. (PG: thematic material involving some violent action and a childbirth scene.) 2 hours, 12 minutes. B-

"OLD SCHOOL": Rude, crude and God help me, pretty funny. Whipped yuppie husbands everywhere throw off the shackles of weekend trips to Home Depot and enjoy the tomfoolery of this raucous tale of grown men chafing against the responsibilities of adulthood and marriage. It peters out, as so many comedies do, but not before delivering some inspired bits, including the glorious sight of Vince Vaughn strapped into a Baby Bjorn. With Luke Wilson and the hilarious Will Ferrell. — M. Pols. (R: strong sexual content, nudity and language.) 1 hour, 31 minutes. B

"THE PIANIST": This restrained yet emotionally ruinous film set in Warsaw during the Nazi occupation marks a triumphant return for director Roman Polanski. Thanks to his celebration, Polish pianist Wladyslaw Szpilman (Adrien Brody) is spared from the concentration camps, spending the next two years relying on the kindness of strangers, at times quite literally a prisoner, isolated and locked into abandoned apartments, visited only occasionally by Resistance members. His very endurance is heroic. Having given us spine-tling nightmares of the imagination in the past ("Rosemary's Baby" "Repulsion"), this time Polanski lets reality give this movie its credit, straightforward power. Be prepared to cry, but know too that the movie is worth the anguish it generates. — M. Pols. (R: violence and brief strong language.) 2 hours, 28 minutes. A

"PIGLET'S BIG MOVIE": This story of A.A. Milne's character "Winnie-the-Pooh" features brought to life through animation is so quaint, it's downright comforting. It's the second original Pooh feature created for the

screen, and it reunites many longtime players from the franchise's animated shorts and videos. Piglet wanders desperately to be a part of his buddies' activities in the Hundred Acre Wood. But when Pooh, Tigger, Rabbit and Eeyore concoct an elaborate scheme for harvesting honey, they leave Piglet out because they think he's too small to help. — C. Lemire. (G) 1 hour, 15 minutes. B

"THE QUIET AMERICAN": Michael Caine gives the richest performance of his career in this sage and provocative film adaptation of Graham Greene's scarily prescient 1955 novel. He plays Thomas Fowler, a lazy, dissipated London Times journalist stationed in Saigon during the French-Indochina war. He loves Vietnam and his young girlfriend, Phuong (Do Thi Hai Yen). Then along comes the quiet American, Alden Pyle (Brendan Fraser), who wants to put everything to rights in Vietnam and then go home with Fowler's girl. What unfolds makes you wonder if Greene unlocked the secrets to time travel in the 1950s. This movie has been released in limited theaters, supposedly because it's feared audiences will find it anti-American and stay away. Pshaw. Let's hope we as a nation are not really so paranoid about revisiting our past mistakes. — M. Pols. (R: violent images and some language.) 1 hour, 55 minutes. A-

"RABBIT-PROOF FENCE": A compelling true tale that marks director Phillip Noyce's return to his Australian homeland after 15 years in Hollywood. A beautiful, taut drama that examines both the strengths and weaknesses of humankind through the story of young Aboriginal girls taken from their homes to become servants. — S. Rea. (PG) 1 hour, 35 minutes. B+

"SHANGHAI KNIGHTS": Jackie Chan is our modern-day Fred Astaire, a fleet-footed, exquisitely graceful martial arts master. Like Astaire, Chan has vast skills, but they're so specific that they require their own framework for display. But the muddled and witless "Shanghai Knights," in which Chan plays a Western sheriff doing the fish-out-of-water routine in Victorian England, is a sad reminder that his talent is doomed to be peddled over and over again in the dumb action-comedy showcase, with little deviation. Even the generally delightful Owen Wilson misfires in this offish, mean-spirited sequel to "Shanghai Noon." — M. Pols. (PG-13: violence and sexual content.) 1 hour, 47 minutes. D+

"SPIDER": If you're a fan of David Cronenberg's customary sick-and-twisted oeuvre ("eXistenZ," "Dead Ringers"), you might be disappointed by "Spider," which is surprisingly staid in comparison. It's psychologically intriguing and sad, but there's nothing to give you the shivers later. Ralph Fiennes plays a mental patient whose release to a halfway house in the London neighborhood where he grew up prompts him to recall traumatic events involving his mother (Miranda Richardson) and father (Gabriel Byrne) and his own burgeoning sexuality. Fiennes is a mannered pain in the arse, but Richardson is so brilliant, she makes the movie worth seeing. — M. Pols. (R: sexuality, brief violence and language.) 1 hour, 38 minutes. B-

"STONE ROADSTER": Twenty-five years after Mark Moskowitz read Dow Mossman's difficult 1972 novel "The Stones of Summer," he read it again, proclaimed it a masterpiece and set out on a three-year mission to find out what became of the author. Turns out the man never wrote another book. Moskowitz interviews everyone he can find who was involved in the publishing of "Stones." The result is part mystery, part book celebration and — sorry to say — part intrusively annoying self-portrait of the filmmaker. However, the mystery he lays out and solves is wonderful. — J. Mathews. (NR) 2 hour, 7 minutes. C+

"TALK TO HER": Pedro Almodovar has created a tragic comedy about need; both its liberating and shackling powers. Benigno (Javier Camara)

is a nurse who sits patiently at the side of his unconscious girlfriend, Alicia (Leonor Welling), attending to her needs. Marco (Dario Grandinetti) ministers to his own girlfriend, Lydia (Rosario Flores), who is also in a coma. It is revealed that Benigno is an obsessive with no real ties to Alicia; she has become his after falling into unconsciousness, and the depth of his devotion becomes both a love story and a horror story. By the end, Almodovar flips the script and demands not just sympathy but also empathy for someone you wouldn't think deserved it. It's a movie about being trapped in various kinds of prisons: spiritual, physical and finally literal. — E. Mitchell. (R) 1 hour, 52 minutes. B

"TEARS OF THE SUN": The Bush administration couldn't have ordered up a better piece of propaganda for American military might. This action movie doesn't have much upstairs, but is loaded with naive, crowd-pleasing gumption. The Nigerian government is overthrown by bloodthirsty rebels, and Bruce Willis and his trusty squadron of Navy SEALs are sent into the jungle to rescue a white doctor (Monica Bellucci). Problem is, she wants to bring all her patients, which requires a dangerous slog through the jungle, rebels in hot pursuit. Action fans might find the movie a little slow, since Willis is at his most somber, and director Antonio Fuqua ("Training Day") favors realism in the combat scenes. — M. Pols. (R: strong war violence, some brutality and language.) 2 hours. C+

"25TH HOUR": Tragedy inspires art as Spike Lee directs an absorbing, smart movie set in the landscape of a post-Sept. 11 New York City. Edward Norton plays Monty, a nice Irish-Catholic boy from the wrong side of the tracks who started dealing drugs to get ahead way back in high school and never stopped. But the law has caught up with him, and Monty is headed to jail for seven years. In his last day, he tries to settle some scores and catch up with old friends, a sharp stockbroker (Barry Pepper) and sad-sack schoolteacher (Philip Seymour Hoffman, brilliant as usual). Norton sometimes sounds as if he's giving a monologue when he's actually opposite other actors, but otherwise, the acting is top-notch through this drama. Lee's best movie in years. — M. Pols. (R: strong language, some violence.) 2 hours, 14 minutes. B+

"VIEW FROM THE TOP": Aimed at a very select demographic — those with at least one Barbie doll in their possession. Anyone else will be miserable at this woefully outdated girly fantasy featuring Gwyneth Paltrow as a girl from a trailer park who dreams of becoming an international flight attendant. Mike Myers has never been less funny. Mark Ruffalo, who plays Paltrow's love interest, is too good for this drek, and the script is so confused about its intentions that as you're watching a catfight between Paltrow's character and another flight attendant, played by Christina Applegate, you're baffled. Is this drama? It's definitely not funny. And why do we care? — M. Pols. (PG-13: language, sexual references.) 1 hour, 27 minutes. D-

"WILLARD": You know you're in for something more than straightforward scares from a horror movie starring Crispin Glover, the actor who has turned quavering eccentricity into performance art. The new movie tells the same story as the original — Willard's father is dead, his mother is all but bedridden and his boss bullies and berates him. Once Willard ventures into the basement, he discovers the answer to his repressed rage. First he befriends a cute white rat, then a big fat rat he names Ben, and then a few thousand of their pals. With no logic or explanation, Willard is able to communicate with and command the rats, and soon graduates from petty acts of vandalism to vengeance-is-mine acts of terror. — T. Maurstad. (PG: terror/violence, some sexual content and language.) 1 hour, 53 minutes. C

Events

FROM PAGE C3

Kani El Lebrjano Flamenco Guitar, April 10
Jackie Ryan, April 11
Jamie Davis, April 12
Free, 2102 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-649-3810 or www.downtown-restaurant.com
FOO FIGHTERS — April 11, 7:30 p.m. With Transplants, Special Goodness \$27.50 Henry J. Kaiser Arena, 10 Tenth St., Oakland 415-421-TIXS, www.ticketmaster.com
FREIGHT AND SALVAGE — Laurie Lewis with Nina Gerber, April 4 \$17.50 to \$18.50
Jody Stacher and Kate Brinslin, April 5 \$16.50 to \$17.50
Holly Near, April 6, \$18.50 to \$19.50 Battlefield Band, April 9, \$18.50 to \$19.50
Tim Sparks, Teja Gerken, April 10 \$15.50 to \$16.50
Utah Phillips, April 12, \$19.50 to \$20.50 Kalman Balogh and the Gypsy Cimbalo Band, April 13 \$16.50 to \$17.50
Music starts at 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted, 1111 Addison St., Berkeley 510-548-1761 or 510-762-BASS or www.freightandsalvage.org
KIMBALL'S EAST — Alex Bugnon, April 5 through April 7, \$30 Stanley Jordan, April 11 through April 13 \$26
Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.; Sunday, 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. East Bay Public Market, 5800 Shellmound St., Emeryville, 510-658-2555 or 510-762-BASS or www.kimbals.com
LA PENA CULTURAL CENTER — "La Pena Bay Area Latin Jazz Legacy" hosted by John Santos, April 4. An evening celebrating Bay Area Latin jazz and the musicians who play it. The night begins with a panel discussion at 7 p.m. with the featured artists for the evening. Then John Santos' Machete Ensemble, Johnny Coppola and Chuy Varela will perform. \$12 to \$15
Hecho en Calitas Series, April 5, 9 p.m. \$7
Cafe Rumba, April 6, 3:30 p.m.
La Gran Noche del Chiriguito with Horacio Duran and Ido Pedrotti, April 10, 8 p.m. \$10
Grupo Raza, April 11, 8 p.m. \$12 to \$14 De Rompe y Raja, April 12, 8:30 p.m. \$15
Two Trickets, April 13, 8 p.m. \$10 to \$50. 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2568 or www.lapena.org
924 GILMAN ST. — Feedezr.
Born/Dead, Brainrot, Scumby Dogs, Funeral Shock, April 4
Funeral Diner, Deconditioned, An Arrow in Flight, End on End, Takaru, April 5
This Bike is a Pipe Bomb, Bananas, Operation Make Out, Pox the Pilot, Stalker Potale, April 11, 8 p.m.
Butchies, Free Verse, April 13, 5 p.m.
Most shows are \$5 and start at 8 p.m. 924 Gilman St., Berkeley, 510-525-9926
PARAMOUNT THEATER — Anita Baker, April 4 and April 5, 8 p.m. \$49.50 to \$77.50
Sigur Ros and Amina, The Album Leaf, April 8, 8 p.m. \$30 to \$35
2025 Broadway, Oakland 925-685-TIXS, 510-625-TIXS, 415-421-TIXS or www.ticketmaster.com
STARRY PLOUGH PUB — Mommy's Friend, Cellofane, Dead Last, April 4 \$5
Love Kills Love, Kills the Pain, Fracas, The Drink Tickets, April 5, \$6
Dance Class and Cello, April 7, Traditional Irish music session
Buckets, Slick Fifty Seven, The Cowbirds, April 10, \$5
Winfred E. Eye, Sonny Smith, Bart Davenport, April 11, \$6
Daevd Allen's University of Errors, Fables, April 12, \$8
For ages 21 and over unless otherwise noted, Sunday and Wednesday, 8 p.m.; Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 9:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted, 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-841-2082
YOSH'S — Spyro Gyra, through April 6 \$22 to \$26
Rhiannon with Alex Acuna, April 7, \$16
Grant and Matheny, April 8, \$12 general; \$25 VIP, includes one CD.

Young Musicians Program, April 9, 8 p.m. A benefit celebrating 35 years of the Young Musicians Program, featuring performances by Dmitri Matheny, Dave Ellis, Leonard Thompson, Ruth Davies, Jason Lewis and Young Musicians Program trumpeter Sean Enck and the YMP Jazz Combo \$22 to \$30 general, \$15 students and seniors
Michael Wolff and Impure Thoughts, April 10 \$8 to \$16
Christian McBride Band, April 11 through April 13 \$18
Sunday Children's Matinee \$18 general, \$10 adult with one child, \$5 children. Shows are Monday through Saturday, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m., Sunday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted 510 Embarcadero West, Oakland 510-238-9200 or www.yoshis.com or www.tickets.com.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

APPLE HILL CENTER FOR CHAMBER MUSIC — "Playing for Peace," April 4, 8 p.m. The Apple Hill Chamber Players perform classical chamber music along with inspirational stories from their travels around the world celebrating the universal healing power of music. A gala reception follows the concert.
\$10 general, \$8 seniors and students
First Congregational Church of Berkeley, 2345 Channing Way Berkeley 510-848-3696, ext 20 or www.applehill.org
CAL PERFORMANCES — Momix Dance Theater April 4 and April 5
The renowned troupe of dancer/illusionists present "Opus Cactus," a suite of 21 dances set to music ranging from Bach to Brian Eno. "Sightlines," a pre-performance talk free to ticketholders, will take place April 4, 7 p.m. Friday, 8 p.m., Saturday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall \$20 to \$42
Schooltime Performance, April 4, 11 a.m. A one-hour performance by Momix Dance Theater for school children in grades 2 through 12. In Zellerbach Hall. \$3 per student or adult chaperone. Tickets available in advance only 510-642-1082

Moscow Soloists. Yun Bashmet, conductor and viola. April 5, 8 p.m. A program of works by Bach, Britten, Takemitsu and Tchaikovsky. In Hertz Hall \$48
Bach Collegium Japan, Masaaki Suzuki conducting, April 6, 7 p.m. A performance of J.S. Bach's "St. Matthew Passion." In Zellerbach Hall \$24 to \$48
Int'l-Illimani, April 8, 8 p.m. Compositions that are influenced by this Latin American group's interactions with other cultures. The music is performed on more than 30 wind, string and percussion instruments. In Zellerbach Hall \$20 to \$36
Schooltime Performance, April 9, 11 a.m. A one-hour performance by Int'l-Illimani, for school children in grades 2 through 12. In Zellerbach Hall. \$3 per student or adult chaperone. Tickets available in advance only 510-642-1082

Camera Sweden, April 11, 8 p.m. A program of works by Greg, Atterberg, Lidholm and Bartok. First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley \$38
"Hesperion XXI," directed by Jordi Savall, April 13, 7 p.m. With Soprano Montserrat Figueras. "Sightlines," a pre-performance talk free to ticketholders, will take place at 6 p.m. First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley, \$42
University of California, Bancroft Way and Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley 510-642-9988 or www.calperfs.berkeley.edu.
GOLD COAST CHAMBER PLAYERS — "Joys and Passions," April 10 and April 12. A program of works by Mozart, Brahms and Wallach. Guest artist, composer Joelle Wallach. Thursday, 8 p.m.: Town Hall Theatre, 3535 School St., Lafayette. 925-283-1557.
Saturday, 8 p.m.: Garratt Mansion, 900 Union St., Alameda. 925-283-3728
\$25 general; \$22 senior; \$10 student. 925-283-3728 or www.gcplayers.org.
JULIA MORGAN THEATRE —

See EVENTS, Page C7

Theater

FROM PAGE C3

time masters of the art. But two "Sunshine Boys" — using irony — put faces and personalities on the comics toured the circuits in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

After 43 years as a vaudeville comedy team, Al Lewis and Willie Clark (beautifully, cleverly played by Norman Hall and John Hutchinson) They had always had an empathy for one other. Willie knew Al's habit of poking a finger in his chest or accidentally spitting in his face during close-quarters routines. They haven't spoken to each other for 11 years.

The play is about efforts to bring them together again for a television special on the History of Comedy.

The hapless go-between is Silverman (Mike Meadows), Willie's nephew,

who brings his uncle a copy of Variety, the show-business paper, where obituaries keep the old codger informed about who's still alive among his dwindling roster of colleagues and friends. The principals are backed by an agile and agreeable supporting cast.

With antagonism and reunion as opposing forces, plus Simon's gift for witty, cutting dialogue, it's easy to see where the comedy is going. But it's still a lot of fun getting there.

Ken Rowland's convincing set design for Willie's cluttered New York apartment on the upper Broadway of 1972 adds immeasurably to the authentic feel of this likable period piece. Curtain times are 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$17 general, \$14 for seniors 62-plus and youths 14 and under. For details, call 415-456-9555.

ANOTHER OPENING, ANOTHER SHOW: Here are a couple of bare-bone alerts for interesting openings next

weekend:
"Annie" begins its run April 11 at Contra Cost Civic Theatre, 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito. It will play at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays through May 24, with 2 p.m. Sunday matinees on April 20 and 27 and May 4 and 11. Tickets are \$20 general admission, \$12 for youths 16 and under. Call 510-524-9132.

The 1977 musical based on the once-famous comic strip "Little Orphan Annie" is directed by Jan Brown, with a book by Thomas Meehan, music by Charles Strouse and lyrics by Martin Charnin. Music direction for the production came from Joanne Gabel and choreography from Anjee Korgaard.

Shotgun Players comes up with "The Vampires" by Harry Kondoleon, previewing April 10 and 11, opening April 12 and playing at 8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 7 p.m. Sundays, through May 10 at La Val's Subterranean, 1834 Euclid

Ave. near Hearst Street, Berkeley.

Pay-what-you-can for the previews. Thursday performances are \$10. Tickets for the regular run are \$18 general; \$12 for seniors, and further discounted for members and children. The opening night gala is \$20. Call 510-704-8210.

This is Shotgun's second foray into Kondoleon's world. The company did his "Christmas on Mars" in 1999.

For "The Vampires," a scathing, sardonic play about a play, Shotgun Players artistic director Patrick Dooley takes the stage as Ian, the added theater critic. Break a leg, Patrick. I expect to be watching. En garde!

Send theater items of interest to Jack Tucker c/o the West County Times, 4301 Lakeside Drive, Richmond, CA 94806; e-mail to jtucker@cctimes.com; fax to 510-262-2776, or call 510-262-2768. Include a contact name and number.

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After filing your Fictitious Business Name Statement with the County Clerk in Oakland, you will need to publish it within 30 days in a Newspaper of General Circulation in the area where your business is located. To publish a Fictitious Business Name Statement in the **Alameda Journal, Montclair, Piedmont, Berkeley Voice or El Cerrito Journal**, please submit the blue stamped and filed copy. We will publish your notice once each week for 4 weeks, file the Proof of Publication with the County Clerk and provide you with a copy for your records. Please contact us at the telephone number below for cost information. Then, mail or deliver it to 1516 Oak Street, Alameda, CA 94501. For more information call 415-749-1666.

Recorder: The amount owed on the subject obligation is: Principal \$90,000.00 Interest \$7,435.60; Advances \$692.50; Advances 5-0 Attorney's Fees \$4,500.00; Costs \$85.62. You are in default under a Deed of Trust dated June 17, 2002 unless you take action to protect your property, it may be sold at a public sale. If you need an explanation of the nature of the proceeding against you, you should contact a lawyer. California Trust Deeds, Inc., 405 14th St., Suite 200, Oakland, CA 94612 (510) 444-3200. Attorney: Lelawicz, Vice-President dated: March 24, 2003 ASAP#292626 Public Notice by Order of the County of Alameda, dated 04/01/04, 04/18, 2003. Local Berkeley Voice #0928
Printed April 04, 11, 18, 2003.

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Events

FROM PAGE C7

An exhibit designed to educate people about the mountain lion, its habitat, physiology, history in California, and myths that surround these mammals. In addition there is a film titled

"Cougar, Elusive Predator" by the Discovery Channel in the Children's Theater. At the Education Center. Open daily during Zoo hours. Free with regular Zoo admission.

SPECIAL EVENT — "The Tortoise of the Mojave Desert," April 6, 4 p.m. Harold Avery of Drexel University will share the results from his extensive study of the Mojave Desert tortoise. The afternoon begins with a reception followed by the lecture. Part of the Zoo's Earthwatch Lecture series. In the Marian Zimmer Auditorium, \$6 to \$8 general. "Earth Day," April 12, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Celebrate Earth Day at the Zoo with live entertainment, Earth stations, interactive exhibits and special activities for children and adults. Learn about animal habitats and what can be done to help preserve them. Free with regular Zoo admission.

\$7.50 general; \$4.50 seniors and children age 2 and 3; free children under age 2; \$3 parking fee. Daily, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Knowland Park, 9777 Golf Links Road off Interstate Highway 580, Oakland. 510-632-9525 or www.oaklandzoo.org.

USS POTOMAC — Visit the 165-foot presidential yacht USS Potomac, called the "Floating White House" when it was refurbished at the beginning of World War II for use by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The yacht has been restored to its World War II splendor and visitors may tour the ship or take scheduled cruises. Dockside Tours, ongoing. Tours of the Potomac at the dock are approximately 45 minutes. Tours canceled when weather is bad and the decks are too slippery to be safe; call ahead if the weather is rainy.

Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 3:15 p.m. \$5 general; \$3 seniors; free youths age 17 and under.

Public History Cruises, CLOSED FOR THE WINTER.

USS Potomac: FDR Pier, Foot of Clay Street, northwest end of Jack London Square, Oakland. Potomac Visitor Center: 540 Water St., Oakland. 510-639-8256 or www.usspotomac.org.

REDWOOD REGIONAL PARK — "Llama Day Hike," April 12 and April 13, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Experienced llama packers will guide this four- to six-mile day hike and the llamas will carry your picnic lunches and personal items. You will have the opportunity to lead a llama for part of the trip. Cancellations will not be accepted two weeks before the trip. This event is for children 8 years and above. Registration is required. \$35 to \$39. \$4 for parking. 7861 Redwood Road, Oakland. 510-636-1684 or www.ebparks.org.

REI BERKELEY — A series of lectures on hikes and outdoor equipment. Events are free and begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 1338 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-527-4140.

ROBERTS REGIONAL RECREATION AREA — Within the park's 82 acres are a heated outdoor pool, bath-

house, playing fields, picnic areas and hiking and riding trails. Sea captains once took their bearings from a towering redwood tree on Blossom Rock here.

Free, Skyline Boulevard, 1/2 mile north of Joaquin Miller Road, Oakland. 510-521-6887 or www.ebparks.org.

ROBERT SIBLEY VOLCANIC REGIONAL PRESERVE — East Bay residents have several volcanoes in their backyard. This park contains Round Top, one of the highest peaks in the Oakland Hills.

Free, 6800 Skyline Blvd., Oakland. 510-521-6887 or www.ebparks.org.

TILDEN REGIONAL PARK — "Kids Garden Club," April 5, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Learn about pollinators and gardening.

"Open The Farm," April 5, 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Learn how to keep the farm animals happy and healthy. Let the chickens out, feed animals and help clean the stalls. For children age 6 and above.

"Spring Ponds," April 5, 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Explore the ponds to learn about spring life cycles. Learn to capture and release naia, nymphs and maybe some newts.

"Science Camp Sampler," April 6, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Get a feeling of what Science Camp entails, including thermometers, dino puzzles and bug sweep.

"Confifers of California," April 6, 10 a.m. to noon. An exploration looking at superlatives: tallest, rarest, oldest and biggest.

"Intro to Golf," April 10, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Have fun in a relaxed atmosphere and learn the essentials of golf. An introductory clinic teaches fundamentals and golf balls and loaner clubs are provided. You'll receive a free \$20 range card for the driving range and a \$20 off a future class. Registration required. 510-636-1684. \$50 to \$56.

"Leaf Printing," April 12, 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Learn about leaves and their functions. Bring a plain, light colored t-shirt to decorate with leaves. \$3.

"Make Your Own Flower Press," April 12, 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Construct and decorate your own flower press to take home. For ages 4 and above. Registration required. \$6 to \$8.

"Spinning Demonstration," April 12, 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Learn how wool is spun into yarn, try out a drop spindle and learn about the park's Black Welsh Mountain Sheep.

"A Lot of Galls!" April 13, 10 a.m. to noon. Search for insects and other organisms that cause swellings on plant parts that are homes for offspring.

"Intro to Flyfishing," April 13, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. An informative day for a beginner. Spend three hours at Lake Anza to practice casting with a certified instructor, then learn from three hours of classroom instruction. No refunds. Registration required 510-636-1684. \$60 to \$66.

"Protist April," April 13, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Using a net, find out what creatures are in the pond, then with a microscope, identify the organisms.

REGIONAL PARKS BOTANIC GARDEN — Guided docent tours of the gardens. Call ahead for times and to confirm tour is on for the day; most Saturdays and Sundays, 2 p.m.

Free unless noted otherwise. Take Canyon Drive off Grizzly Peak Boulevard, Berkeley. 510-525-2233 or www.ebparks.org.

UC BERKELEY BOTANICAL GARDEN — ongoing. The gardens have displays of exotic and native plants.

"Ferns and Fern Allies," April 5 and April 6, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. A two-day workshop for professional and amateur botanists, including discussions of characteristics used in the identification and classification of ferns and fern allies in California and adjacent states. Pre-registration required. 510-643-7008. \$200.

"Rhododendron Walk," April 6, 10 a.m. to noon. Join UC Botanical Garden's Asian Area horticulturist Elaine Sedlack on a tour of the garden's Rhododendrons. Registration recommended. \$10.

TOURS — Botanical Garden Tours, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday, 1:30 p.m. Meet at the Tour Orientation Center for a free docent tour.

\$3 general; \$2 seniors; \$1 children; free on Thursday. Through Sept. 2: Daily, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; closed the first Tuesday of every month for maintenance. Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley. 510-643-2755 or www.mip.berkeley.edu/garden

EXHIBITS

ART IS EDUCATION — A month-long celebration of the visual and performing arts in education taking place across Alameda County. Artists, students and teachers at different venues showcase the power of arts education in children's lives. The event is sponsored by The Alliance for Arts Learning Leadership, an arts partnership in Alameda County.

"Oakland Vibrant Arts," through April 18. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. State of California Office Building Atrium, Craft and Cultural Arts Gallery, 1515 Clay St., Oakland. Free. 510-235-6952 or www.oaklandculturalarts.org.

Free, Corazon Del Pueblo, 4814 International Blvd., Oakland. 510-887-0152.

ARTS AND CRAFTS CO-OPERATIVE (ACC) GALLERY — "Gala Re-opening Exhibition," closing April 8. Featuring the work of twelve artists in mixed media, collage, etching, acrylic, watercolor, wood, photography and bronze and resin.

Free, 1652 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-2527.

BERKELEY ART CENTER — "Katherine Westerhout: Photographs on Canvas," closing April 5. Featuring large-scale pictures of deserted San Francisco/Bay Area sites such as the Fox Theatre and Montgomery Ward Building in Oakland.

Free, Wednesday through Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. 1275 Walnut St., Berkeley. 510-644-6893 or www.berkeleyartcenter.org.

CREATIVE GROWTH ART CENTER — "Hot Sake: A Rush of Art to the Head," through May 2. A collaborative exhibition of new work from Creative Growth artists, artists with disabilities from Japan and visiting artist Tsuka Ishikura.

Free, Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and by appointment. 355

24th St., Oakland. 510-836-2340 or www.creativegrowth.org.

EAST BAY WOMEN ARTISTS —

"Plane Truths," through June 29. An exhibit featuring 10 artists with works of mixed media, prints, photography, painting and sculpture. Opening reception, April 9, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Free, Open daily, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Royal Ground Gallery, 2058 Mountain Blvd., Oakland. 510-339-0348.

GRADUATE THEOLOGICAL UNION — EXHIBITS — "Centennial Exhibition of Korean-American Churches," through April 30. The exhibit includes historical and cultural records as well as artifacts belonging to first generation Korean immigrants and Korean-American church organizations.

"The Sorrows of War," through May 31. An exhibition of prints by Kathe Kollwitz, with German Expressionists Otto Dix, George Grosz and Erich Heckel.

Free, Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 7 p.m. Flora Lamson Hewlett Library, 2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley. 510-649-2400 or www.gtu.edu.

HALL OF PIONEERS GALLERY — "Oakland Chinatown Pioneers," ongoing. Twelve showcases each focusing on historic leaders and personalities of the community.

Free, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Chinese Garden Building, 275 Seventh St., Oakland. 510-530-4590.

LAWRENCE HALL OF SCIENCE —

"Playing With Time," through May 1. In this highly interactive exhibit, you can watch yourself move in slow motion and control speed. Observe and interpret movements the human eye cannot see unaided.

\$8 general; \$6 seniors, disabled, and youth ages 5 through 18; \$4 children ages 3 to 4; free for children under 3.

Sunday 10AM-7PM Mon.-Sat. 9AM-9PM Except where prohibited by law.



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Today's Real Estate in the East Bay by Marc Guay

WAIVING THE HOME INSPECTION

In the heat of a real estate boom, when many buyers are competing for the same home, buyers often seek ways of sweetening their offers. One approach has been to waive the professional home inspection requirement. It's not a good idea—not for the buyer, nor for the seller.

It may seem to hasten the close of a sale. It may even seem to reduce a seller's liability for any material defects in his or her home. But the reality is that removing the benefit of the professional home inspection greatly increases the possibility of litigation after the sale has closed.

There is no way of releasing a seller completely from liability for any problems in his or her home. A leaky roof, whose repair may cost much more in the future than it would now, isn't just the buyer's problem...and the courts will enforce that fact in most cases. A professional home inspection, along with negotiated correction of any flaws in the home—these become an insurance policy for both buyer and seller, ensuring a future that is free of lingering problems. And the insurance premium turns out to be a bargain. Don't waive it. For help with real estate matters, call Marc at 280-2103 and visit his web site at www.marcguay.com.

Marc Guay is a Realtor® with Red Oak Realty in Berkeley.

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF EMERGENCY PERMIT LAWRENCE BERKELEY NATIONAL LABORATORY BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has issued an Emergency Permit to Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) for the one-time treatment of a hazardous waste. The waste consists of 500 grams of liquid diethyl ether contained in a steel can with an approximate capacity of one liter. The Emergency Permit allows for the treatment (adding ethanol and water to the waste) to take place on one day between the dates of DTSC's CEQA determination for this Emergency Permit, pursuant to Section 68270.51, Title 22, California Code of Regulations (CCR) to avoid a situation that could become an imminent and substantial danger to public health or the environment.

Hazardous Waste Description: About 500 grams of liquid diethyl ether are contained in a one-liter steel container. Due to its age and current condition, the hazardous waste disposal container used by LBNL does not feel comfortable transporting the waste without pre-treatment. Shock resulting from the transportation of the unstable diethyl ether can result in a small explosion and can pose an imminent danger to human health and the environment. LBNL has isolated the container and has maintained a safe work distance from its storage location.

Treatment: The safe alternative to transporting this waste is to remotely open the container and desensitize the contents within the vicinity of its present location. Desensitization will be accomplished by the addition of ethanol and water to acceptable levels. The steel-can will be enclosed in a protective cover. The container will be opened by a remote controlled device to ensure worker safety. Stability of the container will be tested using peroxide test strips. The container will be secured by replacing the cap or will be repackaged. Residual contamination will also be contained. The treated diethyl ether will then be safely transported to an offsite disposal facility. The emergency treatment of diethyl ether will take place in the parking lot adjacent to the Calvin Building of the University of California Berkeley.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): DTSC has determined that this Emergency Permit is exempt from the requirements of CEQA under Title 14, CCR, Section 15296 (c), actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency. A Notice of Exemption (NOE) will be filed which starts a 30-day time period for any legal challenges to DTSC's CEQA determination for this Emergency Permit. This activity is necessary to prevent an emergency because the material has become too unstable to store, handle, or ship off-site without posing a threat to property and human health.

For further information regarding the Emergency Permit for Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, please contact Vaguer Ahmed at (510) 540-3932. A copy of the Emergency Permit, NOE and additional documents on LBNL operations are available for review at the following locations:

Department of Toxic Substances Control
700 Heinz Avenue, Suite 200
Berkeley, California 94710
(510) 540-3800

Berkeley Public Library
2090 Kittredge St., 2nd floor, Reference Desk
Berkeley, California 94704
(510) 986-6100 - call for appointment

If you would like to be placed on the mailing list and receive additional information on LBNL, please contact Lora Barrett, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, at toll-free 866-495-5651 or by email at LBarrett@dtsc.ca.gov. Media inquiries should be directed to Angela Blanchette, DTSC Public Information Officer at (510) 540-3927 or by email at Abianche@dtsc.ca.gov.

Notice to the Hearing Impaired
You can obtain additional information by using the California State Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 (TDD). Ask them to contact Lora Barrett at 866-495-5651 regarding Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

Legal Berkeley Voice #0926

Published April 4, 2003

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Friday Auto Plus

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Friday supplement to The Montclairian, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Friday, April 4, 2003

Section D

Gas-and-go puzzle finally getting attention

BY JEFF BENNETT
NIGHT RIDER NEWSPAPERS

WASHINGTON — Alan Weicki wrestles with three puzzles every day as he works to develop storage tanks on hydrogen-powered fuel-cell vehicles: the tanks are expensive, make them ready for production.

Irvine, Calif., company, Hydrogenics Inc., is one of the businesses worldwide trying to solve these issues.

Working for research is critical. The issue is so important that the Department of Energy told more than 500 people attending the Hydrogen Conference in Washington that it has asked Congress to triple what it spends on research and development of storage tanks, from \$11 million this year to \$33 million in 2004.

Engineers, researchers and others at the two-day conference focused on several topics, such as how to create a network of filling stations to fuel the vehicles and how to reduce the \$1 million to \$2 million cost it would take to develop a vehicle.

"If we don't solve storage, how people won't buy the car," said Steve Chalk, U.S. Department of Energy program manager.

Automakers want to roll out hydrogen-powered vehicles by 2010. That shift the United States and away from dependence on oil.

Cells need a mixture of hydrogen and oxygen in order to make a car move. Hydrogen must be produced at a vehicle.

HYDROGEN, Page D2



MOTOR MATTERS

CHRYSLER FINALLY offers a sports car in the 2004 Crossfire which really moves despite its underpowered V6 engine.

2004 Chrysler Crossfire should be a hot seller

MOTOR MATTERS

Looking for a hot sports car? Go to your Chrysler dealer quickly, and order the 2004 Crossfire as buyers for this car may soon be standing in line.

This is the first sports car that Chrysler ever built, and it's a winner with three key ingredients: refinement, agility and terrific eye appeal.

The Crossfire is the result of the DaimlerChrysler marriage and it is obvious where the Mercedes-Benz know-how went into making a top-notch sports car. It even displays a

hint of the Mercedes SL roadster in its design.

One designer gave me a walk around of the Crossfire pointing with pride to such minute details as the curved speed-lines on the hood and how they carry the eye to the rear of the car using a high beltline with darkened windows.

He explained the reason for the horizontal headlamps and how they complemented the Chrysler grille badge.

Also, he described the emphasis on the large taillights and pointed out that the rear end has

TOM KEANE
Keane on Wheels

wide 19-inch rear tires opposed to 18-inch tires on the front.

At a time when we seem to be in a horsepower race with each manufacturer trying to outdo the other, I was unimpressed when I learned the Crossfire was powered by only a 3.2-liter, V6 engine producing a mere 215 horsepower. I had yet to sit behind the wheel, but when I did, those numbers didn't

mean a thing. This car really moves!

Buyers will have the choice of two transmissions: a six-speed manual or a five-speed electronically controlled AutoStick.

I enjoyed both, but I preferred the optional AutoStick as it automatically drops down into the lowest possible gear based on revolutions of the engine at that particular moment. The response is exciting.

The Crossfire required a bit of maneuvering for me to drop my rear end into the seat — typical of any low-profile sports car. After drop-

ping into position, I was able to adjust the seat to a proper driving posture using the telescoping steering column housing the leather-wrapped steering wheel.

The driver's heated, leather power seat has eight-way controls, (four-way for the passenger seat) plus one-touch power-down for both windows.

I examined the Infinity audio system with AM/FM/CD powered by 240-watt amplifier with six speakers including dual subwoofers.

See KEANE, Page D2

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without plus government fees & taxes, any finance charges, any dealer document preparation charge, and any sales tax. Ad expires close of business Sunday, April 6, 2003. *The first payment must be made exactly from the contract date. The number of payments will be reduced by 5 months. Only qualified Tier A or higher California residents eligible on credit approval through Chrysler Financial. Not all buyers will qualify.

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M hoping Malibu will bring it success in sedan niche

JEFFREY MCCracken
NIGHT RIDER NEWSPAPERS

he same time Japanese automakers are taking sharper aim at profit cash cows of sport-utility vehicles and pickup trucks, the largest automaker is setting its sights on Japan's stronghold: sedans.

General Motors Corp. unveiled North American International show a completely redesigned Chevy Malibu, a high-volume car that symbolized GM's dominance of the U.S. car market. The Malibu is still a symbol, but vanishing customers GM lost Honda Civic and Accord and Toyota Corolla and Camry.

Between the Malibu and two other sedans also unveiled, GM is betting on sedans that could easily account for 10 percent to 15 percent of U.S. car and truck sales. "We have high hopes for the Malibu. It's all significant, brand-high-volume products for us," GM Vice Chairman Bob Lutz said. Malibu, whose sales have averaged 25 percent from 2000 to 1998 to 169,000 last year on sale in September. The Chevy Malibu is the first car from Epsilon, GM's multi-

billion-dollar global-development program that is the largest in the automaker's history.

The new Malibu, to be built at GM's Fairfax assembly plant in Kansas City, Kan., will have a stiffer ride, roomier trunk and interior, and more safety features than the previous version, said GM officials. It's expected to begin selling for about \$19,000.

"The Malibu addresses a core part of the market for us. We want some of the juice we have in trucks," said GM Chief Executive Rick Wagoner. "We've done a lot of work on that platform. I think the Malibu is going to be an important thing for Chevrolet and is going to do big things for us."

After devoting about 65 percent to 68 percent of its product-development spending on trucks from 1999 to 2001, GM last year and for the next two years plans to spend a like percentage on cars, according to a GM spokesman.

"Starting this year you will see the same kind of intensity on cars that you've been seeing from us on trucks. It starts with the Malibu, Grand Am and other things we've got coming," he said.

Lutz said the new Malibu, while not radically styled, has substan-

tially better interior fit, finish and detailing and "driveability, feel and precision that will feel like German or Swedish versions" of the Epsilon platform.

GM is also using the Epsilon program in Europe with its Opel brand in Germany and in Sweden with Saab. The first two European mid-size cars from Epsilon debuted earlier this year with the rollout of the Opel Vectra and Saab 9-3.

"It's got a good shot at being extremely successful," Lutz said.

Not that GM is forgetting its truck lineup.

The automaker also unveiled the all-new Chevy Equinox, a five-passenger compact SUV, and the Chevy Colorado and GMC Canyon, twin mid-size pickups that replace smaller pickups in the GM lineup.

The Equinox will give GM a presence in the fast-growing compact sport-utility vehicle market, where it hopes to compete with the Jeep Liberty, Ford Escape, Toyota RAV4 and Honda CR-V. It is supposed to replace the Chevy Tracker, whose sales fell 19 percent in 2002 to 42,000 from 52,000 in 2001.

The five-passenger Equinox will have a 3.4-liter, V6 engine that produces 185 horsepower with a base price expected at about \$18,500. It



THIS IS THE 2003 Chevrolet Malibu. A totally redesigned 2004 model was unveiled at the recent Detroit Auto Show, the first American car built on GM's new worldwide Epsilon development program.

will be the largest vehicle in its class and have the largest interior.

The Equinox will be assembled at GM's Ingersoll, Ontario, joint venture with Suzuki. Equinox production is to begin early in 2004 and it should be on sale in the first quarter of that year. Chevrolet hopes to sell more than 100,000 a year.

The new Colorado/Canyon mid-

size pickups are bigger and beefier than the Chevy S10 and GMC Sonoma they replace, and are to be assembled at GM's Shreveport, La., truck plant.

They will come standard with a 2.8-liter, four-cylinder engine that produces 170 horsepower. GM figures many customers will go for the optional 3.5-liter I5 engine, which

gets better fuel economy and produces more power — 215 horsepower — than competitors like the Toyota Tacoma and Ford Ranger.

The new trucks are to go on sale in the fourth quarter of this year. Chevrolet expects to sell about 200,000 Colorados annually, while GMC expects to sell about 80,000 Canyons a year.

M to build in 'remote start' for Chevy Malibu

HERB SHULDINER

owners of the 2004 Chevrolet Malibu will be able to start the car from the comfort of their homes, enabling them to have a warm car in winter or a cool car in summer.

It takes a squeeze of the "remote start" button on the key fob. GM will be the first domestic automaker to offer a convenience feature.

The Malibu LT will have remote start as standard equipment. The mid-level LS will have remote start as part of a convenience package. The base Malibu also will offer remote start but as a standard option and the price has not been announced.

Three will offer the convenience of starting the car from a distance of 200 feet.

Thousands of car owners already enjoy this feature that is available as an aftermarket item and auto parts stores sell a \$400, plus installation. Those systems are not in line with the car's safety security features.

In addition, the remote-start system comes with the same security that covers the rest of the Malibu. Aftermarket systems are not warranted by GM.

To avoid inadvertently starting a vehicle, a two-step process is required. First, the "lock" button must be activated by the "lock" button on the key fob. Then the remote start button must be held down for two seconds.

The steps insure that the vehicle will be locked after it is

started and at the same time initiates the engagement of the anti-theft system.

The driver can determine if the vehicle has received the remote start signal, because the car's lights will flash once. When the vehicle is idling after start up the parking lights turn on.

The car will continue to idle for up to 10 minutes. If you don't enter the car within that time, the engine will shut down.

Remote start performs a myriad of other tasks before initializing the engine: it checks whether the hood is closed and the status of the anti-theft system, engine oil pressure and temperature, rpms and the throttle position are checked. Remote start also checks the brake transmission shift interlock, vehicle speed, on-board diagnostics, battery voltage and ignition switch integrity.

If the system detects any deviation from normal, the remote control will not start the car. Even though the car starts while the owner is out of the car, the vehicle cannot be driven away unless the car is opened with the remote control and the ignition key is turned to the run position.

This allows the theft-deterrent system to check the electronic password. Only then can the driver shift out of park.

Should the driver decide to turn the engine off after it has been remotely started he or she has only to press the remote start button on the key fob. Pressing the hazard switch also will turn the engine off.

See REMOTE, Page D4

el-cell

PAGE D2

cles in this country, and a nationwide network that crisscrosses everywhere."

Industry statistics show that more than 216 million cars and trucks nearly all gasoline powered, were in use in the United States in 2001. There are 100,000 gas stations in the United States, according to the American Petroleum Institute, and more than 100 million cars and trucks stopped for gas on a daily basis.

That backdrop, Kurani says, is why Toyota's FCHV (Fuel Cell Hybrid Vehicle), a version of the Highlander SUV, is a possible scenario of a world where many vehicles are powered by hydrogen.

They've gotten one very close. Toyota. Two more are in the works.

hope to answer funding questions about vehicle more likely to be 100 to 150 miles than Toyota's pro-180 miles) and how people use them.

ough Turrentine and Kurani are still figuring out the details of their 30-month project, they certainly let real folks see the vehicle.

They'll likely keep travel diaries and they'll also host gatherings with their neighbors and co-workers to talk to them about a fuel-cell car.

State of the Union address President Bush proposed a government money to spend over the next five years, from \$50 million to about \$275

million annually. "The money certainly helps," said Dunwoody who heads the \$2-million-a-year, 20-member partnership of automakers, oil companies, component makers and government agencies.

"It's likely 'a lot of that will come to California,'" she said.

At the partnership, which opened its doors in 2000, seven automakers have staffs, office space, garages and vehicles. An eighth, Volkswagen, is expected to arrive and fill the last empty spot later this year. So far, automakers are testing about 20 fuel-cell vehicles.

That will grow to 60 by year's end, Dunwoody said.

To complement the fueling station at the partnership, which can supply either liquid or gaseous hydrogen, a satellite fueling station was opened late last year in Richmond.

With it, researchers can now drive to San Francisco and back.

This year, another fueling station will open in Auburn, which will allow vehicles to be driven to the Sierra for higher-altitude and colder-weather testing.

Sperling, at UC Davis, said that while the government certainly has a role to play by creating tax incentives and other inducements for car and oil companies to commit to hydrogen, those companies will need to spend money ("many, many billions") to bring the technologies to market.

GM has said it'll mass-produce fuel-cell cars by 2010.

Sperling's "optimistic scenario" puts commercially available fuel cells on the road in the 2007 to 2012 time frame.

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1963 Oldsmobile Starfire convertible a rare find

MOTOR MATTERS

"Dad had a 1963 Olds Super 88 wagon," Russell Miller said. He fondly recalls many happy hours in the big Oldsmobile when his family would flee the stifling summer heat of New York City for the cooler climate of their Connecticut summer house.

As familiar as he was with the 1963 Oldsmobile of his youth, that was then and 35 years had passed when he began shopping for an early 1960s Cadillac convertible.

While searching for a suitable Cadillac his search took him to Logansport, Ind. There he came across — you guessed it — a 1963 Oldsmobile. This one, however, was not a station wagon but a rare Starfire convertible model.

One look at the familiar dashboard and childhood memories came flooding back. Miller learned that the original owner had been a preacher.

The second owner had repainted the car dusk rose and had overhauled the 394-cubic-inch, 345-horsepower "Fire-Swirl Combustion Chamber" V8 engine before deciding the time had come to find it a good home.

Miller became the third owner of the 4,293-pound Oldsmobile in April 1999 and arranged to have it trucked to his home. He recalls the 17-foot, 10.5-inch-long car being rolled off the truck on its 123-inch wheelbase in a driving rain.

VERN PARKER
Classic Classics

The new owner had replaced the convertible top to complete the cosmetic restoration. A total of 22 snaps hold the boot in place when it is covering the lowered convertible top.

Much mechanical work was required to put the car in excellent condition including securing the A-frame bolts. Hidden from view at each wheel is a drum brake.

The handsome full wheel covers do not have traditional openings through which valve stems usually protrude.

Instead, the wheel covers, mounted on five springs must be pulled (with difficulty) away from the wheel about three inches for access to the hidden valve stem.

Inside the most expensive Oldsmobile model available in 1963 the driver sits in a comfortable bucket seat behind a stylish two-spoke steering wheel with inset chrome-plated horn buttons.

A primitive dial-your-speed cruise control apparatus is mounted on the wraparound dogleg of dashboard below the windshield to the left of the driver.

The tilt-away steering wheel is a factory-installed option that was produced by the General Motors Sag-



SETTING OUT to buy an early 1960s Cadillac convertible, Russell Miller finds a rare 1963 Olds Starfire instead and becomes its owner.

inaw Steering Gear division. Pulling on a small lever near the turn signal stalk permits the steering wheel to be adjusted to any one of seven predetermined angles.

The floor-mounted console houses the tachometer as well as controls for the electric window and courtesy lights. The gearshift pattern, operated with a T-stick handle, has gear positions, front to rear, of

park, neutral, drive, second, low and reverse.

A factory-installed air conditioner makes for pleasant summer cruising while listening to the transistor radio tweaked with the reverberation option. Front-seat belts were an extra cost option.

The thirsty engine necessitated a 21-gallon fuel tank since mileage figures on the highway are 12 to 13 miles per gal-

lon, about 7 mpg in the city. Twenty-two quarts of coolant are needed to keep the muscular engine cool and content.

Opening the trunk is easy: Simply open the glove compartment and press the vacuum-operated trunk release. The antenna on the right rear fender is power operated as is the "Pedal-Ease" brake pedal.

The powerful Oldsmobile, with Starfire ultrahigh compression re-

quires almost 43 feet of turn around. This wide overlapping wipers in order to big windshield.

Only 4,401 Starfires were built by Oldsmobile, each one carrying a badge \$4,742.

Even though the Olds n't the car he set out Miller is pleased. It reminds his youth in his father's



CHEVROLET has plans to improve its Cavalier. In the meantime, the small car keeps selling, and the 2003 model has a four-cylinder engine with Ecotec that provides reasonable power and good fuel economy.

Latest Chevrolet Cavalier has extra equipment, but still needs updating

BY STEVEN COLE SMITH
THE ORLANDO SENTINEL

With front seats only marginally more accommodating than an Amish church pew, the 2003 Chevrolet Cavalier does not make a particularly good first impression.

As one of the oldest models in the General Motors lineup, the Cavalier has been tweaked and tuned and "refined," as the Chevrolet public relations people like to say, but the company has spent comparatively little to update its small cash cow, and it shows.

With a list price of slightly more than \$18,000, the test car, a Cavalier LS Sport, is being sent into battle with the much newer Honda Civic, Toyota Corolla, Mazda Protege, Nissan Sentra, Ford Focus and even the Dodge Neon, which is also in need of a major makeover but still feels fresher than the Cavalier.

Relief for the Cavalier is coming, and if you have seen the 2003 Saturn Ion, you've seen the future of the Cavalier and its near-twin, the Pontiac Sunfire, assuming the Sunfire — available only as a coupe, not a sedan this year — is continued at all.

Until then, GM is relying on good will and massive discounts to keep its little cars moving.

Last year I spoke with an engineer for the Cavalier, and — off the record — he did not deny the need for a new platform, but gamely listed the improvements made the past few years to the current car. Indeed, some of them show: The suspension isn't bad, handling is pretty good, and

the ride is reasonably comfortable.

The only engine available, the 2.2-liter, 140-horsepower Ecotec, is pretty new and will power Cavaliers for some time, as it is also found in the Ion. It's a double overhead-camshaft design with four valves per cylinder, replacing a 115-horsepower four-cylinder of an older design.

Although not as smooth as the Honda four-cylinder, the Ecotec is pretty good, and provides more than adequate power and fuel economy — 24 miles per gallon in the city, 33 mpg on the highway. On the test car, it was mated to a four-speed automatic transmission that was nicely matched to the Ecotec.

As is the custom with all manufacturers when a model grows long in the tooth, extra equipment is added as standard to make for a more attractive package.

The top-of-the-line Cavalier LS Sport came with power windows, locks and mirrors; cruise control; air conditioning; traction control; a tilt steering wheel; an AM/FM stereo with a compact disc player; anti-lock brakes; fog lights; remote keyless entry, a rear spoiler and some attractive chromed aluminum wheels with relatively large P205/55R-16 radial tires.

All this made for a pretty nice car, if you could adjust those cloth-covered front seats to a comfortable position. Six of us tried: Four could not, two others found acceptable positions. Both were women, on the smallish side.

What was wrong with the seats? Too low to the floor, too-short bottom cushions,

spongy seat foam, little lateral support and insufficient available adjustment.

The rear seat is fine for similarly smallish people or kids. Trunk space, at 13.6 cubic feet, is average or better.

The only option on the test Cavalier LS Sport was the automatic transmission, at \$780. I've driven the Cavalier with the five-speed manual; I'll take the automatic. With \$565 in shipping, the bottom line was \$18,120.

Base-model Cavaliers start at about \$2,400 less than the LS Sport, but don't have standard anti-lock brakes, cruise control, a CD player, the big tires and wheels and several other features.

The non-Sport LS model is about \$1,200 less than the Sport and doesn't have the spoiler, tuned suspension, fog lights and 16-inch tires and chrome wheels.

For slightly more than \$18,000, the LS Sport offers quite a bit for the money, but General Motors realizes that buyers need more incentive.

Drop the price of the Cavalier LS Sport to a little more than \$15,000, and twist the dealer's arm for more, and suddenly this looks like a pretty good buy.

Except for those seats. Sit first, ask questions later.

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SUV safety clinic teaches proper way to drive off road

CAP TOL CITY MOUNTAIN GOATS 4X4 CLUB

FOLSOM — The Capitol City Mountain Goats 4X4 Club announced that it will conduct its next four-wheel drive, hands-on safety clinic next Saturday and April 13 at the Prairie City State Vehicular Recreation Area.

This is a one-day course and participants may choose either date.

According to Doug Sinclair, chief instructor for the clinic, the course is designed especially for sport utility vehicle and four-wheel drive pickup owners who are interested in taking their vehicle off road for camping, fishing, photography or simply sightseeing in the backcountry.

"Over the years, we have learned that there are literally thousands of people buying into the SUV market and many of them would like to go off the highway, but they simply don't have the confidence," said Sinclair. "We not only teach them the how to properly drive their vehicle on a rural road or trail, but we also emphasize the environment and show them how they can tread lightly in the backcountry."

With class materials furnished by the California Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs' Conservation & Education Foundation, the hands-on clinic covers topics such as how the four-wheel drive works, off-pavement driving skills, safe practice guidelines, vehicle limits, tools and accessories and maintenance of the vehicle.

"We begin in the classroom with a slide presentation, followed by several hours of memorable hands-on driving, where students will encounter many simulated obstacles similar to those they would find in the backcountry," said Sinclair.

Students will learn how to "walk" their vehicle, how to drive over trails and big rocks, how to drive in the snow and they will learn how to strap a vehicle should they get stuck in the mud or snow.

Cost the one-day clinic is \$55 for the student driver and \$5 for each ride-along non-driver. For those choosing to pay at the clinic, the cost is \$60. Space is limited, so Sinclair recommends interested owners register early. Classes begin each day at 8 a.m.

The Prairie City park is located off Highway 50, approximately 20 miles east of Sacramento. Students should exit on Prairie City Road and continue to White Rock Road. Take a right on White Rock Road and watch for the entrance to the park on the left.

The classroom instruction will be conducted in the Capitol City Mountain Goats clubhouse, located near the entrance to the park.

For more information on the 4X4 safety clinic or to register for the April class, contact Sinclair at 916-421-7219.

"We not only teach the how to properly drive vehicle on a rural road trail, but we also emphasize the environment and them how they can tread lightly in the backcountry."

Doug Sinclair, of

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Remote

FROM PAGE D3

Another way to shut the engine down is by inserting the key into the ignition switch and turning to the off position.

GM is optimistic that a high percentage of customers will elect to purchase cars with remote start as a standard feature, or buy it as an option. The company's marketing division intends to monitor the success of the system on the 2004 Malibu before committing to install it on other models.

Installation in trucks and SUVs also will happen, but that is further down the line.

A company spokesman says GM has no plans to offer the system for retrofitting older vehicles. But if you don't have the patience to wait, you can still go to an aftermarket supplier and either install the system yourself or have it done by a professional mechanic.

It's interesting to note that many new car dealers also offer aftermarket remote-start systems. One Chevy dealer in Montreal, Canada says he installs them in every vehicle he sells.

The benefits of the system aren't just suitable for warming up cars in cold climates. Remote-start systems also can be used to cool down vehicle interiors in hot climates.



SAFETY ADDS safety features to 2003 Xterra, including Vehicle Dynamic Control with Traction Control for the first time.

CHEVY'S NEW concept truck, the Cheyenne, combines rugged elegance with new levels of cargo-carrying versatility.



MOTOR MATTERS

Xterra gets extra horsepower and torque for 2003

Following last model year's addition of a supercharged V6 and refined front end styling, all 3.3-liter normally aspirated V6-equipped Nissan Xterra models receive an additional 10 horsepower (an increase to 180 horsepower) and two additional pounds-feet of torque (now 202 pound-foot) for 2003.

In addition, Vehicle Dynamic Control with Traction Control System will be available on Xterra for the first time.

Is bigger better? Automakers now are using large, wide tires on cars and trucks to accommodate larger brakes, improve road handling and give vehicles a burly look.

"There has been more emphasis on horsepower, and bigger tires help get that horsepower to the ground," says Kurt Antonius, a spokesman for Honda, whose base model Accord now comes with 15-inch tires instead of 14-inch.

Automakers are following a growing trend toward bigger tires in the replacement market.

New trend: Faced with soaring gas prices, a sluggish economy and a war with Iraq, more new vehicle buyers seem to be buying more fuel-efficient cars.

Overall, small car sales are up 5.3 percent this year, while the rest of the passenger car market is down 2 percent.

Only the luxury SUV and crossover vehicle markets are posting bigger sales gains.

SPARE PARTS

Motor Matters

Volvo offers five versions of the V70

The V70 line of vehicles combines unparalleled flexibility, longevity, comfort and handling without compromising Volvo's long tradition of quality, advanced safety design and durability.

Five versions of the Volvo V70 are offered for 2003: the 2.4, 2.4T, 2.5T AWD, the sporty T5 and, for those seeking the ultimate active-lifestyle vehicle, the all-wheel-drive XC70, formerly known as the Cross Country.

Smart airbags: The next generation of airbags — designed to reduce injuries to children and small adults — still face engineering challenges before they must be introduced starting this fall.

The new airbags will be designed to deploy only when an adult is in the front seat. Using sensors, the so-called "smart airbags" determine the mass and weight of a seat's occupant, and deploy accordingly.

New challenge: Following months of criticism by religious, environmental and safety groups that sport utility vehicles are unsafe and consume too much gasoline, engineers and automakers are facing a new challenge.

They are now trying to bring the new safety technology to market without adding costs, or raising the price of new car and truck models.

The highly competitive state of the industry today will not allow for price increases, making the cost pressures even greater.

Chevrolet redefining full-size pickup truck

Chevy's latest concept pickup truck, the Cheyenne, provides a glimpse into what a full-size truck can be.

Chevyenne combines ruggedly elegant styling with new levels of cargo-carrying versatility for personal and business use.

The cargo bed is accessible by two side-access doors positioned directly behind the cab, in addition to the traditional tailgate. It has a 500-horsepower, 6.0-liter V8 engine.

Defending SUV safety: The Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers told the Senate Transportation committee that the auto industry can do so much more to develop SUV safety if they are not federally mandated to do so.

The group asserts automakers are willing to address safety issues such as the damage SUVs cause in crashes with passenger cars.

Nevertheless, SUV rollover death rates have dropped 13 percent since 1995 largely due to improved technology on sport utility vehicles.

Consumer Reports' vehicle top picks have time-tested validity

DAVE VAN SICKLE

MOTOR MATTERS Every year, almost every auto organization and magazine has a list of their favorite car for the year.

But never do the choices coincide. That's because the criteria for the best cars and trucks vary widely, and in some cases, there are no standards at all — groups just pick what they like. The top selections are based on opinions of one or two people. Others sample a variety of cars. Supposedly credible organizations like AAA have only one car maker, while the North

American Car & Truck of the Year are selected based on the opinions of 49 highly qualified journalists.

At best, only a few top recommendations are based on hard, cold facts.

However, there is one organization that has a proven record for separating fact from fiction when it comes to evaluating cars. For almost 50 years, Consumer Reports has been testing cars and reporting their findings.

CR has the most comprehensive auto testing program of any American magazine, with a full-time staff of auto engineers and a dedicated, specially equipped 327-acre test-

ing facility. And while most publications borrow test vehicles from automakers, CR buys all the cars they test from dealerships, just as the average consumer would do.

Last year, CR spent about \$1.3 million on test vehicles. Every year, the testing becomes more detailed and the findings more informative.

Consumer Reports ranks all of the vehicles it tests and compiles charts that show which makes and models perform the best and worst. The ratings are based on more than 40 tests performed at its auto-test facility.

Here's how they do it: Engineers put at least 2,000 miles on each test

vehicle to break it in. The break-in period helps ensure that CR will get the most accurate results in tests of braking, acceleration, handling, and noise. During this period, engineers begin to get a seat-of-the-pants feel for the vehicle's strengths and weaknesses.

Then they conduct more than 40 individual tests on each vehicle, ranging from emergency handling, acceleration, and braking, to fuel economy, noise level measurements and bumper-impact tests. Vehicles are always tested in groups so that engineers can make back-to-back comparisons of peer vehicles.

Since some attributes are more important than others, each is weighted to come up with a final score. But within each category, there may be numerous sub-categories that are each weighted.

For example, the braking category includes dry braking, wet braking, brake fade, ABS performance and pedal pressure requirements. It all sounds complicated, but each sub-category gets a rating value that becomes part of the category value, and eventually becomes part of the car's final score.

When all of the testing is completed, test data is compiled, and numerical ratings are calculated for each vehicle. But that's not the end of it. A model can earn a "recommended" label only when it performs well in testing, and when the magazine's reader survey indicates that it should be at least average in reliability.

Admittedly, some of the tests are subjective, but the evaluators are seasoned test drivers, and running all of the vehicles through each routine at the same time provides an excellent basis for comparison.

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CR has been compiling reliability data for more than 20 years. Its annual questionnaire currently gath-

ers data on 14 separate trouble areas, and the most recent survey includes data from more than half a million vehicles. CR bases its reliability forecasts for models currently on sale on data from the three latest model years.

Consumer Reports releases its findings and the names of its Top Picks in its April issue. Top Pick categories include Family Car, Small Car, Best Car Tested and Driving Green (those that get exceptional fuel economy). Even though you might not agree on some of the selections, you can be assured that the choices were based on facts, not fiction.

Deadline set for entries in 36th annual Silverado Concours d'Elegance

EJO — The deadline for entries to enter vehicles for the 36th Annual Silverado Concours d'Elegance, one of the classic car events of the April 21.

Concours will be held at the Valjejo, on June 1 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Featured marques will be Ford and Harley-Davidson, which are celebrating their anniversary. The Corvette,

celebrating its 50th anniversary, will be the spotlight marque.

The entry fee for each vehicle is \$15 for the 35 judged classes, which include antique, classic and imported cars as well as motorcycles. Awards will be presented for first, second and third place in each class.

To obtain an application, contact Jeff Mihaly at 510-549-0920 or visit www.silveradoconcours.com.

During the Concours, participants will stroll among historic man-

sions on officers' row while viewing classic and antique cars, vintage motorcycles, military vehicles and more. More than 360 vehicles will be on display, including a special exhibit of a 1938 Phantom Corsair, courtesy of the National Automobile Museum in Reno.

Proceeds from the event benefit the Sutter Solano Medical Center Foundation, Mare Island Historic Park Foundation and other local non-profit organizations.

What do women want? SUVs built like cars

MOTOR MATTERS

ask in exasperation: What are we doing? Finally there is an

prefer a car-based, mid-size utility vehicle over one truck-based.

At least college-educated women, according to a study by the automotive specialist research and product company headquartered in

2002 SUV crossover study that the latest crop of car-based sport utility vehicles attracted a high percentage of female buyers, the well-known female, which means with at least four years of

the sophisticatedness of these ride like cars instead of trucks that has made them appealing to educated females who demand refined car-like ride, value and

and more of these mid-sized SUVs are coming to market and they represent a new vehicle in many ways," said product analysis manager. "The styling and functional SUVs have offered for decades, but in addition — they are based on passenger platforms — they offer benefits over a traditional SUV."

Based on unit-body platforms like Ford Escape, Honda CR-V, Hyundai Santa Fe and Highlander — the vehicle in the survey — of-

CHERYL JENSEN

Down the Road

fer ride and handling that is comparable to many sedans and a level of overall refinement associated with sedans rather than trucks.

Many women who have high expectations of vehicles in these respects did not find these attributes in traditional truck-based SUVs. In many cases, those vehicles have had truck-like ride and handling, "agricultural-sounding" engines, high step-in height, making it difficult to enter and exit, and are all around less refined.

Furthermore, because they don't sit on a frame, car-based SUVs have a lower floor for easier entry and exit. Yet they still have the high ground clearance and command-of-the-road seating position that people expect from an SUV.

According to the AutoPacific data, 33 percent of Ford Escape buyers — Ford's one car-based SUV — are college-educated women. However, when it comes to Ford's other truck-based SUVs, only 16 percent of buyers are college-educated women. "That's more than double," Kim said.

"With Escape, Ford is succeeding in diversifying the appeal of their SUVs. And that's really significant to the Ford brand, which has always relied on their 'Built Ford Tough' macho image."

The story is similar, although not as dramatic, for other new car-based mid-size SUV entries such as Highlander, Tribute and Santa

Fe. In the case of each of these vehicles, the companies have succeeded in earning more buyers who are female and educated. For example, 20 percent of Hyundai Santa Fe buyers are college-educated women compared to 16 percent for the rest of the brand. Although four percentage points isn't a huge difference, it is directional, Kim said.

These findings are significant because they indicate these vehicles are addressing the concerns and needs of one group of consumers who have stayed away from SUVs in the past, which means the SUV market has a lot of life left in it yet, Kim said.

While SUV sales are showing signs of maturing, AutoPacific forecasts that SUV sales will number about 4 million in 2002. And with more car-based SUVs arriving over the coming years, total SUV sales will grow to over 4.2 million by 2007.

Although 200,000 vehicles over five years doesn't seem like a lot, Kim said it's still growing, just not at the rate it was in the '90s, the period of major growth in the SUV market. And car-based SUVs are where a lot of the growth will be, he added.

"Through 2006 there are 22 new car-based SUVs coming to market, while there are 11 new truck-based entries coming. By bringing out these car-based SUVs they are helping to maintain the momentum. A lot of people who bought Explorers and Blazers in the '90s are finding their needs a lot better met by these car-based SUVs."

MOTOR MATTERS

General Motor's Swedish subsidiary Saab has far more riding on its new 9-3 sedan than just the launch of a new car. Company executives are counting on the 9-3 to put Saab's finances back in the black.

Owned by GM since January 2000, Saab's losses accounted for the bulk of GM of Europe's \$549 million loss last year, according to financial analysts. In response to its deteriorating financial situation, Saab announced in November it would cut costs and lay off workers.

But Saab executives here and in Sweden know it will take more than cost-cutting — it will require a boost in sales. Worldwide, Saab sells about 130,000 cars annually. Their sales consist of only two models, the new 9-3 and the larger, more expensive 9-5.

Saab Chief Executive Peter Augustsson has said recently that Saab must boost sales to 200,000 vehicles a year in the coming years to be self-supporting. Analysts agree, saying Saab's future depends on adding new models.

"Saab's only chance for survival is to add some reasonable crossover vehicles — and more than one — to its line," said Susan Jacobs, whose Rutherford, N.J., firm, Jacobs & Associates, forecasts sales for luxury car manufacturers.

Indeed, Saab has plans to introduce crossovers. While the company won't confirm future product plans, a crossover based on the new 9-3 reportedly is planned for around 2004. A larger crossover, based on Cadillac's SRX, which is being introduced now and is built from the CTS sedan, is possible for

MICHELLE KREBS

She's Freewheeling

around 2006.

I interviewed Debra Kelly-Ennis, recently appointed president and chief operating officer of Saab Cars USA. She predicted double-digit sales increases for Saab in the coming years due to an expansion of its product line.

"What we're going to be doing in coming years is have new products in new segments. We hope to have a 50 percent broadening of our product line over next 24 to 36 months," she said.

Another product segment Saab wants to enter, said Kelly-Ennis, is the premium small car market, like Mercedes-Benz's A-Class, Audi's A2 and BMW's 1 Series, all coming to the U.S. market.

Saab reportedly is close to signing a deal with Fuji Heavy Industries, the parent of Subaru in which GM owns a stake, to use a Subaru Impreza-like car as the basis for a small premium car to be called the 9-2.

Kelly-Ennis wouldn't be specific about Saab's future product plans but said announcements would be coming in the next few months. She also said Robert Lutz, GM's vice chairman of product development, is helping Saab fill out its product portfolio by looking for "global opportunities" within GM, in the vein that Lutz tapped the Australian-built Holden Monaro for Pontiac's upcoming GTO.

Kelly-Ennis is encouraged by the launch of the 9-3. "The new 9-3 has

been on sale for only three months, and we've nearly doubled sales over the old 9-3 body style. We've done that with only one variant — the Linear — in the marketplace," she noted.

In April, the 210-horsepower Arc and Vector versions of the 9-3 go on sale. A convertible is scheduled to go on sale in the fall and the station wagon/crossover model is slated for a year later.

Indeed, in January 9-3's sales, driven by the new 9-3, were up 62 percent from the previous year. But they were fueled by attractive incentives. The new 9-3 already is available with a subsidized lease of \$299 a month with only \$999 down; the 9-5 has a \$399 monthly lease incentive.

A chart published by Automotive News, based on a Merrill Lynch report using numbers from AutoData Corp., a Woodcliff Lake, N.J., forecasting firm, shows Saab leads the industry by a wide margin in incentives — about \$6,000 per vehicle versus runner-up Isuzu at just under \$4,000.

Saab disputes those numbers, though it won't reveal what its numbers are, and an Autodata official refused to verify the figures, saying Merrill Lynch released them without permission or explanation.

Analyst Jacobs said in addition to its skimpy product line, Saab has a bigger problem with its addition to incentives. "The fact is Saab has never gotten off incentives even at the peak of the boom in the late 1990s. Incentives are the crack in the foundation of Saab," she said, adding incentives reduce resale values and diminish the brand.

Little things can make RVing fun, easier

BY JEFF JOHNSTON
MOTOR MATTERS

The recreational vehicle industry has a realm of accessories available to enhance your enjoyment of the rig and improve its versatility. A fun part of RVing is when you learn about the smaller accessories that can make a big impact on your RVing time.

The following four items have proven very useful for us, and they may work for you as well.

One of the most versatile RVing accessories you can take along is probably sitting in your garage or laundry room. It's a bucket.

■ A 3- to 5-gallon model will do, but the 5-gallon size is best. There's a long list of ways the bucket will come in handy on your RV trips. You can use it to store and transport your exterior cleanup supplies so they're handy when you need them.

When your kids collect rocks, use the bucket to carry them back to the campsite, or to haul your booty of freshly dug clams home for a campsite feast. Haul a bucket or two of water to extinguish a campfire before you leave, or haul creekwater to your tow rig to top up an overheated radiator in an emergency.

Add a Bucket Boss tool holder, and the bucket becomes a convenient tool tote. Invert the bucket, and use it as a convenient low-level seat while washing your wheels.

■ Trailer taillight and brake light wiring can be the source of much pre-vacation grief. It seems as if no matter how well the tow vehicle and trailer are wired, something often goes haywire when you plug in the trailer prior to the trip.

Even if you haven't done any wiring work, something mysteriously changes, as

JEFF JOHNSTON
Rolling Homes

If gremlins come out and rearrange the wiring when you aren't looking.

■ A new diagnostic tool from the brake control people at Tekonsha Towing Systems (800-786-7968, 517-767-4142, www.tekonsha.com) can ease the trailer wiring troubleshooting process. It's called the 7-Way Trailer Emulator, and it looks like a typical seven-contact Bargman-style wiring plug with six LEDs added to the slightly enlarged housing.

The Emulator works by providing a direct indication that your tow rig's wiring is in order. Plug it in the socket, have a helper operate the turn signals, brakes and running lights, and the red LEDs show you that all the circuits are active and correct.

In addition, the Emulator contains a load simulator that duplicates the effect of the trailer's electric brakes, which allows you to set up a brake control when the trailer isn't attached. It's a handy device.

Along the lines of trailer plugs and such, many RV owners have other trailers to tow besides their RVs. And unfortunately, there are many different plugs and receptacles available for trailers of all kinds, too. Utility, boat, motorcycle, commercial and horse trailers all seem to prefer different plug styles, while RVs are standardized on the round 7-blade Bargman style plug.

Several companies now offer plug adapters with a Bargman-style plug up front and one of several different plugs out back. These adapters make it easy to connect your other plug styles to your tow vehicle

that are set up for RV use.

Tekonsha has several plug adapters, as does C.R. Brophy Machine Works Inc. (800-637-8258, www.crbrophy.com), which has adapters to fit almost any trailer wiring situation. These plugs can be found in many RV accessory stores or the Camping World catalog (800-626-5944, www.rv.net).

Campground power supplies vary greatly in quality and consistency. Today's RVs have more sensitive electronic hardware than ever before, and computers, cell phones, satellite TV systems and other devices need stable power supplies to ensure they keep operating well.

■ The new Digital Monitor 20020 from Automated Engineering Corporation (813-630-1229) is a new, compact, highly portable line voltage monitor that's perfect for use in RVs. It simply plugs into a wall socket and constantly monitors line voltage, frequency (in Hertz) and voltage spikes and the like.

It also checks for incorrect line polarity or a bad ground connection, both of which can occur in campgrounds. The monitor includes an LED warning lamp that lights up if anything goes wrong, and an audio monitor also triggers when needed.

You can start by plugging the Digital Monitor into the campground shore power connection to make sure the power supply is right before you plug in your RV. Next, the device is plugged into a power outlet to provide a source of constant line voltage monitoring to keep your devices in fine order.

Check around your local RV accessory shop or peruse the Camping World catalog, and you may well run into a few "good idea" RVing devices of your own.



A PLAIN 2- to 5-gallon bucket may be the most useful RV accessory you can take along on a camping trip.



GENERAL MOTORS/SAAB

SAAB'S 2003 9-3 comes as a four-door sedan with no all-wheel drive and no high-performance wagon offered.

Saab fights back with 9-3 sport sedan

BY MATT NAUMAN
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

Saab is in trouble, and its answer, here in the United States, is the new 9-3 sport sedan.

I'm not sure it'll be enough.

Automotive News reported recently that two General Motors executives have been installed to put together an emergency turnaround plan for the Swedish automaker, which is expected to lose \$504 million this year. Saab is owned by GM.

The company now says it hopes to sell 200,000 vehicles a year worldwide by 2005, down from the 250,000 previously predicted. This year, it'll sell 125,000 cars, down from its 140,000 forecast.

The company has dropped plans for made-in-Scandinavia brand centers in major U.S. cities, including one in San Francisco.

Into this turbulent atmosphere comes the new 9-3 sedan. When your company only sells two products — the more expensive 9-5 series is the other — a new version always is important. This time, it's crucial to Saab's future.

Available now, the new 9-3 comes in one body style, a four-door sedan. Gone is the quirky hatchback styling, replaced by a bland European look that doesn't turn heads.

Only the unusual paint color of our test car — a milky blue that Saab calls dolphin gray — got any comment from onlookers.

What buyers won't find, for now, are all-wheel-drive or wagon versions of the new 9-3. They're coming, but not now. All its rivals — BMW, Mercedes, Volvo and Audi — offer all-wheel drive sedans and wagons.

Gone, too, is a high-performance Viggen version, as was available in the previous-generation 9-3.

And while the popular 9-3 convertible remains in the Saab lineup, it's a carryover from 2002, rather than a redone model based on the new car.

Even worse, this is the most timid configuration of the new 9-3. Called Linear — Saab says its trim-level designations connect its cars to an architectural mindset — it comes with a turbocharged, 2.0-liter four-cylinder engine that only makes 175 horsepower.

That's comparable to the performance of the five- or six-cylinder engines found in comparably priced European sedans, Saab says, but I think many American buyers prefer the familiarity of a V6.

Arc and Vector versions of the 9-3 sedan with 210-horsepower four-cylinder engines, six-speed manual transmissions and 300-watt stereos offer something better and perhaps signal that Saab's near-future will be more secure.

What's here now is a pleasant enough ride. Indeed, on a long road trip from Fremont, Calif., to Las Vegas, the new 9-3 proved a comfortable companion with a solid ride, plenty of power for those never-ending stretches of I-5 and I-15 and a fine stereo.

The Linear comes with some luxury touches — leather seats, a trip computer, that stereo — and nice complement of safety features, stability-control and traction-control systems, front and rear side-curtain air bags and a year's worth of OnStar's Safe&Sound telematics package.

Tired of being known for its hatchbacks, and realizing that Americans mostly hate them, Saab stylists went for a less distinctive body shape.

The four-door sedan is nicely proportioned, but it isn't visually exciting from any angle.

On the inside, the muted color scheme and busy control panel are subtle to the point of innocuous. I like the round, easy-to-read instruments, but a simple task such as changing a radio station proved much more difficult than it needed to be.

(Yes, in perhaps the only nod to its formerly quirky reputation, Saab retains its key-slot-behind-the-shifter ignition.)

The 9-3 is the first car to come to the United States based on GM's new Epsilon platform. In the near future, it'll serve as the basis for the next Chevy Malibu, Pontiac Grand Am and other models.

GM says it's a flexible platform that'll allow the automaker to equip American cars with a more European driving feel. My experience with the new 9-3 says that's true.

With a \$25,900 base price — destination charge is \$625 — the 9-3 Linear is the cheapest Saab sold in the United States.

Saab notes that the 9-3 is cheaper than the BMW 325i sedan, the Mercedes-Benz C240 sedan and the Volvo S60 2.4 sedan, while the Audi A4 1.8T is about \$1,000 cheaper.

The Arc and Vector versions of the 9-3 sedan coming next year will sell for \$29,995 and \$32,495. Prices for the 9-5 sedans and wagons range from \$33,995 to \$39,350.

Somewhere between the Japanese luxury cars, which have made tremendous strides in recent years to distance themselves from images of gussied-up Accords and Camrys, and the European luxury marques, all of which sell strongly based on quality, safety and image, there might be room for Saab.

But, considering its tiny slice of the market, its financial troubles and the lack of a breakout design, feature or technology with the new 9-3, it seems a daunting prospect.

Tests find the pluses and minuses of direct, indirect tire-pressure systems

BY RICK POPELY
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

CHICAGO — If you are like nearly one-third of American motorists, the last time you checked the air pressure in your tires was too long ago, and at least one tire is dangerously underinflated.

Underinflated tires run hotter, wear faster and have a greater chance of suffering tread separation and blowouts.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration cited underinflation as a cause of tread separation on Firestone tires, which has resulted in 271 deaths, many in Ford Explorers.

That is one reason Congress two years ago, reacting to the Firestone recall and Explorer rollovers, mandated auto safety measures including tire pressure monitors on new vehicles.

Under rules NHTSA issued in May, new vehicles must have tire pressure monitors (TPMs) under a phase-in schedule beginning Nov. 1, 2003.

NHTSA will let automakers use two types of monitors the first three years — direct and indirect.

Direct systems have individual pressure monitors on each wheel that transmit a radio signal to activate a warning light when any tire differs significantly from a recommended inflation level.

Direct TPMs provide pressure readings whether a vehicle is moving or parked.

NHTSA's rule requires direct systems to give warnings when any tire drops 25 percent below normal. For a tire that requires 32 psi, that would be 24 psi.

Indirect systems operate off a vehicle's anti-lock brake system and measure differences in rotational speeds among the tires. They work only when a vehicle is moving.

NHTSA's rule requires indirect TPMs to warn when one tire is 30 percent or more below the others.

So for that same 32-psi tire, that would be 22 psi.

The Tribune tested two versions of each system that are available, and the direct monitors proved more effective and informative than the indirect type.

Direct systems

With the direct TPM General Motors offers on the Chevrolet Corvette, which uses run-flat tires, Cadillac Seville and DeVille, the test car, the tire-pressure warning came on after driving less than three blocks if any tire was at least 7 pounds below or above the recommended inflation pressure.

A dashboard display says to "Check Tire Pressure," and the driver has to scroll through a series of messages to find the pressure reading for the affected tire. The driver can turn off the display, but it comes on again every time the engine starts until the pressure is corrected. It automatically goes off once the air pressure is back to normal.

A direct TPM the Chrysler Group offers on the Chrysler 300M, which was tested, and Town & Country, Dodge Caravan and Jeep Grand Cherokee activated a warning after less than a block of driving.

A display on the overhead console shows pressure readings for the four tires. Any that are too low or high flash. The warning came on when pressure was more than 6 pounds below or more than 14 pounds above normal.

The warning goes off after 60 seconds but comes on every time the engine starts, and it goes off automatically once inflation is back to normal.

The GM and Chrysler direct systems warn when more than one tire is under- or overinflated and provide constant pressure readings. Among other manufacturers that offer similar direct TPMs are Ford, Mercedes-Benz and Nissan.

Indirect systems

GM also offers indirect systems on several Chevrolet, Buick and Oldsmobile models. The indirect system was less effective.

BMW offers a direct TPM on its 7-Series sedan and an indirect TPM on several models. The indirect TPM on a BMW M3 activates a small, red warning light until a tire is more than two miles at below normal inflation.

BMW spokesman said the system is designed to deactivate when a tire drops below normal inflation. He didn't explain why it wouldn't deactivate when one tire was 50 percent below normal.

The M3 owner's manual says the system a "flat-tire" warning "detects whenever tire pressure in a tire drops significantly."

The BMW and GM indirect systems have to be reset after a tire is brought back to normal. The tires are rotated, and the board button resets the system.

The direct TPMs let GM and GM need to be reset after a tire is rotated. They're a useful tool that dealers should have.

Ford and Toyota offer indirect TPMs on certain models. Other manufacturers that offer indirect TPMs on certain models are because of the system's limitations.

NHTSA's staff organized the direct system, promised under pressure from White House and the public, to allow automakers to meet the three-year deadline.

However, the rule was challenged on two counts.

Safety concerns

Safety advocates

See TIRES, Pa.

Mustang Mach 1 is neat salute to the past

BY STEVEN COLE SMITH
THE ORLANDO SENTINEL

Those of us old enough to have owned a few cars likely have a "wish I'd kept it" somewhere on the list.

Typical reflection: "Man, I remember when I bought that new What-ever-mobile. Great car. Best I ever had. Can't believe I sold it. Wish I'd kept it."

I have a lot of those on my list. Funny, isn't it, how time erases your memories of horrible gas mileage, a rough ride, repeated mechanical problems?

I have fond memories of my 1969 Chevrolet Corvette, but if I think hard enough, I can remember when the radio stuck on one station — classical music! — and when the switch in the transmission that prevented you from starting the car in "drive" stuck, and prevented you from starting the car in any gear.

Even though my 1970 Ford Mustang Mach 1 did not have air conditioning, and had only an AM radio, I can't think of anything bad about the car.

Wait, one thing: A rod that attached to the clutch pedal broke,

rather often. I'd put the clutch in to shift, the rod would break, the clutch pedal would go straight to the floor with a thoonnnng! sound, and the car would be stuck in whatever gear it was in.

But clutch rods were cheap and required one wrench to repair. I kept some rods and a wrench in the glove box.

Ford first used the Mach 1 designation for the 1969 Mustang, but the 1970 model was the best-looking, if I do say so myself. It was that car that Ford engineers and designers used as inspiration for the 2003 Ford Mustang Mach 1, the latest in a succession of special-edition Mustangs the company is developing to help keep some interest in the car until the all-new 2005 Mustang arrives.

The "Mach 1" badge on the rear is just like the 1970 model. The seats, with horizontal ribs, are very close, ditto the stripes on the hood.

But the nearest salute to the past is the genuine "shaker"—a big scoop that sticks up through a hole in the hood that is actually attached to the engine. When the engine shakes, the scoop shakes — hence the name.

Of course, engines these days are so much more powerful, smoother, 32-valve, ultrasmooth, 32-valve, head camshaft, 305-cu-in. 4.6-liter V8. But it's when you accelerate, the car encourages you to relax. Deja vu, all over again.

That engine is also a speed manual transmission, more gears than my had, but one fewer than the 2003 Mach 1. A six-speed w/overdrive in the Mach 1. I have raised the price of the Mach 1 to \$28,995 with shipping, a price as expensive as any other car in the class.

On the road, the Mach 1 is a great car, due in part to its P225/55R-16 radial tires. The seats are experienced in the Mustang, better than the buckets in the Commodore, the most comfortable in a Mustang in years.

I sold my 1970 Mustang Mach 1 for \$3,620, for \$1,200, for a Plymouth Road Runner. I kept it. But because the 2003 model brings back nice memories.

recycle recycle recycle recycle recycle
recycle recycle recycle recycle recycle recycle

Crossover vehicles are sensible alternatives to SUVs

MOTOR MATTERS

Sport Utility Vehicles remain very popular, but many SUV owners have driven them long enough to tire of some of their truck-like attributes.

Many don't like having to climb into the typical SUV. Others don't like the generally rough ride and mediocre handling characteristics. And, fuel economy is always an issue.

But, don't despair, alternatives to the SUV are now showing up in almost every showroom. They're called crossover vehicles.

Crossover vehicles are built on a car platform but still offer the practical aspects of an SUV body with cargo space and relatively high seating position and they look like cars. Ride and handling in these vehicles are car-like, and all offer all-wheel or all-wheel drive for excellent all-weather performance.

Some say that American Motors led the crossover trend back in the 1980s with the all-wheel drive, ground clearance version of the AMC Eagle. It was a failure in the marketplace because of quality issues and perhaps because it was ahead of its time.

Back then Subaru was a relatively small player in the market-

DAVE VAN SICKLE
Down the Road

place but had been offering four-wheel drive since 1975. Subaru's introduction of the highly successful Outback in 1995 really started the crossover trend. It's rugged looks, all-weather capability and car-like comfort convinced buyers and automakers alike that there was a real alternative to the SUV.

Now, almost every automaker offers at least one crossover, and the race is on to build even more.

Some call them SUVs, while others insist they are "trucks," but the real definition of a crossover is a vehicle with a car-like platform with its inherent ease of entry/exit, comfortable ride, good handling and decent fuel economy. Combine that with a rugged-looking but practical body and all-wheel drive, and you have a crossover.

Here are some of the crossovers you might consider when shopping for something other than the traditional SUV. Excluded are so-called sport wagons which are sporty all-wheel drive versions of station wagons.

Acura's MDX and the Honda Pi-

lot are all-weather vehicles that look a lot like minivans. That's because both are built on the Honda Odyssey platform and offer many of the same interior features as this popular minivan.

Buick offers the seven-passenger Rendezvous, which is equipped with a unique all-wheel drive arrangement. Under the attractive skin, it's the same as the controversially styled Pontiac Aztek. Both are built on a modified GM minivan platform.

The Honda CR-V was introduced in 1997 and quickly became a popular alternative to the conventional SUV. Built on a Civic platform it offers two- or all-wheel drive and seating for five.

Toyota's RAV4 competes nose to nose with the CR-V. It's modified Corolla underpinnings make it mostly like a car with a very stylish, yet practical body.

Even Lexus has a crossover. The very popular RX 300 is derived from the Lexus ES 300 platform, but many of the body, suspension and powertrain components are unique.

Cost-conscious buyers can purchase the same basic vehicle for less with the Toyota Highlander. Both are very capable all-weather vehicles with minivan-like accom-



SOME OF THE crossover vehicles being offered by manufacturers include Pontiac's VIBE, ABOVE which shares a platform with Toyota's Matrix, below left, and the Outlander by Mitsubishi, below right.

modations inside.

Mitsubishi is a newcomer to the crossover segment with its Outlander. Built on the Lancer platform, the entry-level Outlander is an affordable way to join the crossover crowd.

Also new is the Saturn VUE. Saturn refers to the VUE as its first SUV, but its car-like suspension, powertrain and interior features tell the story. Plastic body panels make the VUE ding, dent and rust resistant.

Toyota and Pontiac have teamed up to build the very similar Matrix and VIBE. Using a Toyota Corolla platform and powertrain, both have identical interiors but more distinctive exterior styling. Designed for drivers with active lifestyles, Matrix and VIBE are available with two- or four-wheel drive in regular or GT versions.

Finally, there's the Subaru Forester. It's been around for since 1997 but has been substantially up-

graded. Built on an Impreza platform, the Forester is a competent little package in all kinds of weather. And, we can expect to see even more crossovers in the future.

Look for the Ford Cross Trainer, Chrysler Pacifica and even some strange variants from the likes of Porsche.

With more crossovers coming, buyers no longer have to settle for traditional SUVs. Now, they have some real choices.



TOYOTA



MITSUBISHI

SUV owners invited to tour scenic and historical high Sierra Gold Country

SIERRA TREASURE HUNTERS

GRASS VALLEY — Sport utility vehicle (SUV) and other four-wheel drive owners are invited to attend the high Sierra Gold Country off-highway adventure on Saturday, May 3, hosted by the Sacramento-Sierra Treasure Hunters four-wheel drive club.

According to Jim Bramham, trail guide and narrator for the tour, this will require some mild touring in some of the Mother Lode's most beautiful and historical backcountry.

Bramham said that the tour will begin at 9 a.m. with registration beginning at 8 a.m. in Grass Valley. Exact staging location in Sierra Valley will be provided to participants prior to the tour.

Many people drive up Interstate 5 toward Reno and wonder what the other side of the mountain

and how did the early pioneers manage to push their wagon trains over such treacherous mountain passes," said Bramham "During the tour, we will peer into the past while you traverse sections of old mining routes and visit old historic towns of years gone by."

This fully narrated, one-day tour will depart Grass Valley and meander into the high country through the Malakoff Diggins, an 1860's era hydraulic mining town; through the historic towns of Allegheny and Graniteville, crossing the south fork of the Yuba River and many other interesting sites along the way.

"This trip is suitable for any SUV or four-wheel drive pickup," Bramham said, "however, we do require that anyone joining us must have four-wheel drive, low range."

Cost for the high Sierra Gold

Country trip is \$50 per person and children 12 and younger are welcome free of charge. The cost includes a gourmet continental breakfast and lunch on the trail.

Trail committee officials recommend participants bring camp-type folding chairs, camera and a small cooler for water and soft drinks on the trail.

All vehicles must have a current registration and insurance and drivers must possess a valid driver's license.

While not mandatory, participants are also encouraged to bring a CB radio or family channel radio.

For registration information, contact Sharron Clements at 916-332-6335 or e-mail her at fox224@pacbell.net. Registration should be mailed to "Gold Country Tour" c/o Sharron Clements, 4017 Ward Ave., North Highlands, CA 95660.

GM muscles back into the nostalgia market

BY JEFFREY MCCracken

NIGHT RIDER NEWSPAPERS

LOS ANGELES — Hoping to capitalize on the American infatuation with sports cars of yore, General Motors Corp. unveiled at the Los Angeles Auto Show a new version of the Pontiac GTO, the famous muscle car put out to pasture almost 30 years ago.

The GTO goes into production in September and is expected to be in dealerships around November.

GM hopes to sell at least 100,000 of them a year, priced in the \$30,000 to \$35,000 range.

We think we have a halo car on our hands. It's a modern interpretation of the GTO, and it's hoping the enthusiasts like said Lynn Myers, Pontiac-GMC chief manager.

The GTO was first introduced in 1966 as a high-performance option on a Pontiac Tempest. Over the years, it became a muscle car legend and enshrined in pop-music lore by Jan & Dean and others.

GM sold 500,000 Pontiac GTOs from 1966 to 1974. In 1974, when economy concerns lowered demand for muscle cars.

Initially, for a car that became a part of Americana, GM was slow to bring the next GTO to Australia. The new GTO is an Australian vehicle called the Monaro. It will be made at

The GTO goes into production in September and is expected to be in dealerships around November.

the plant in Elizabeth, Australia.

Originally, GM engineering and design executives thought the rear-drive performance coupe Monaro could be an appropriate replacement for the Chevy Camaro and Pontiac Firebird, two models GM recently stopped producing.

In February, GM officials like Vice Chairman Robert Lutz began considering the Monaro for a new generation of the GTO, which GM had been looking to build for several years. In June, GM announced its decision publicly.

"It was approved to be the next GTO in April. Pontiac had been looking for a GTO and we felt this fit," said Jerry Gillespie, vehicle line engineer on the GTO. "We had to make a lot of changes, especially safety changes, to bring it over here."

The new GTO will use a 5.7-liter, V8 aluminum-block engine estimated to produce 340 horsepower. The engine, manufactured at the

St. Catharines plant in Canada, shares the same basic configuration of the engine in the Corvette, though it has been modified to increase airflow and create greater horsepower.

The GTO comes in either a four-speed automatic transmission or a six-speed manual transmission.

"It will go from 0 to 60 in under 6 seconds and have a top speed of 160 miles per hour," said Myers. "It will be the fastest GTO we've ever produced."

Even though the GTO is a car from GM's past, the automaker did not choose to create a retro car that harkens back to the GTO's glory days. This contrasts with Ford Motor Co., which intentionally created the new Thunderbird with models from the 1950s in mind.

"No, it's not retro at all. We wanted something that had broader appeal than the Firebird and a family resemblance to the Grand Prix or Bonneville," said Bob Kraut, marketing director for the Grand Prix, Bonneville and GTO.

The GTO will be available in seven different colors and four different interiors. It seats four in leather bucket seats.

Among the standard features are a six-disc CD changer with a 10-speaker sound system, dual front air bags, side air bags and keyless entry.

Lincoln LS: European feel in American sedan

BY STEVEN COLE SMITH

THE ORLANDO SENTINEL

Well, this is a nice surprise: A comparatively mild makeover for the 2003 Lincoln LS has turned it into what is probably the best American-brand sedan. A very good car when it debuted several years ago, the Lincoln LS — at least the Premium Sport model tested here — is now simply excellent.

The LS shares a platform with the Jaguar S-Type, the Ford Thunderbird and, to a lesser extent, the upcoming 2005 Ford Mustang, which will be loosely based on the chassis.

Engineered during a period when most domestic cars in this size and price range were single-mindedly front-wheel-drive, the LS helped remind consumers how nice a well-balanced rear-wheel-drive car can be.

The performance of the LS and the general interior quality was tough to fault, but its anonymous styling has held it back.

For 2003, it gets a too-minor facelift that helps, but not enough. Under the body is where the important changes were made.

Beneath the hood, the 3.9-liter V8 gets a 28-horsepower bump to 280. The 3.0-liter V6 on the less expensive LS models also gets a power increase, from 220 to 232. Both engines use a five-speed automatic transmission.

The manual transmission, previously available on the V6, has been discontinued because of a lack of interest.

With 280 horsepower, the smooth, gutsy V8 engine accelerates with authority, even if, at times, the transmission is a bit slow-shifting. Our actual overall fuel mileage was 22.3 miles per gallon, right between the EPA-rated 18 mpg city, 24 mpg highway. Lincoln recommends 91 octane fuel, midrange between regular and premium.

The biggest improvement for 2003, though, is in handling and road feel. Our Premium Sport model, which has big 17-inch tires and wheels and a slightly stiffer suspension than the regular LS, felt positively European. It's as though Lincoln engineers copied the steering feel, handling and ride of a BMW.

Frankly, many U.S. manufactur-

ers copy the BMW suspension and steering, but this is as close as any domestic manufacturer has come to getting it right.

Inside, the leather-upholstered front bucket seats, which are heated and cooled, aren't up to BMW standards, but they aren't bad. Instruments and controls are fine. Trunk space, at 13.5 cubic feet, is more than adequate.

With almost every option available, including a navigation system, a superb THX-certified stereo and

rear-parking assist, plus standard-for-the-model features such as stability control, Xenon headlights and a power moon roof, the Premium Sedan base price of \$43,360 swelled to a European-like \$47,285.

The base LS with the V6 still has a very impressive list of standard equipment for \$34,495, and that qualifies it as an excellent buy.

For those who want the entire European feel but insist on buying American, the Premium Sport is a splendid choice.

Tires

FROM PAGE D6

NHTSA to require direct monitors, and the tire industry charges that NHTSA's rules will increase the number of vehicles running on unsafe tires.

Public Citizen, the Center for Auto Safety and the New York Public Interest Research Group have sued NHTSA, charging the indirect monitors will do little to warn consumers and prevent accidents. The suit seeks to force automakers to use the more expensive and sophisticated direct system.

NHTSA estimates that adding the indirect type to a vehicle with ABS will cost automakers about \$13 per vehicle and the direct system will cost \$70.

The auto industry does not disclose its costs but suggests that NHTSA's estimates do not include engineering and development costs.

The Rubber Manufacturers Association, which represents the tire industry, has petitioned NHTSA to revise the rule, contending consumers will not be warned early enough that their tires are low.

Tiremakers say underinflated tires cannot carry as much weight as fully inflated tires and are more apt to fail under a heavy load.

Dan Zielinski, a spokesman for the Rubber Manufacturers Association, said if TPMs don't warn drivers until tires are 25 percent to 30 percent below normal, "they will go off after the tires have reached an unsafe condition."

A tire with a recommended pressure of 32 can drop to 26 without triggering a warning, he said, but it could "be insufficient to carry a ve-

hicle's maximum load," what it can carry in passengers and cargo.

"What concerns us is that the government is essentially validating that it is OK to drive on tires that are dangerously underinflated," Zielinski said. "By definition of NHTSA's rule, you're not in danger as long as that warning light is off. There may be accumulative damage that causes sudden tire failure."

Tiremakers want NHTSA to change the rules because they fear being sued over deaths and injuries caused by underinflated tires.

"If someone's tire fails without them seeing a warning light, an enterprising trial lawyer will see a defect in the tire," Zielinski said.

The tire industry wants NHTSA to mandate inflation pressures that have enough reserve so a tire can carry its maximum load even if it is underinflated.

"When a low-fuel warning light goes on, you still have gas in your car. When the tire pressure warning light goes on you should have enough air pressure to carry a full load," he said.

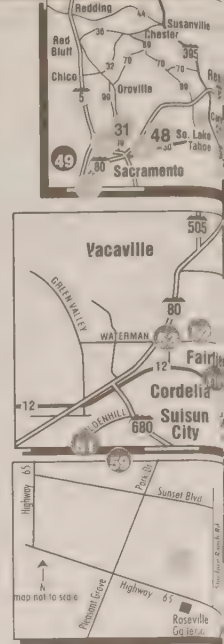
Automakers can raise the recommended tire inflation or use larger tires that can carry heavier loads, he added. Direct TPMs also can be set to warn drivers sooner, such as when a tire loses 10 percent or 15 percent of its air pressure.

NHTSA spokesman Rae Tyson said the agency agreed to allow both systems because it had to develop a TPM regulation under a congressional deadline.

"The two systems give the auto industry a choice, and this represents a good compromise."

"It will provide the consumer a degree of protection," he said, declining further comment on the challenges to NHTSA's rules.

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open Sun/Sat, 1-4 3bd/2bdr, 1st flr. 1000 sq. ft.
Agt. 925-757-2634

15 AC. 360 DEGREE VIEW
open Sun/Sat, 1-4 3bd/2bdr, 1st flr. 1000 sq. ft.
Agt. 925-757-2634

San Ramon

112 SHORE HAVEN CT.
open Sun/Sat, 1-4 3bd/2bdr, 1st flr. 1000 sq. ft.
Agt. 925-757-2634

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open Sun/Sat, 1-4 3bd/2bdr, 1st flr. 1000 sq. ft.
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Agt. 925-757-2634

112 SHORE HAVEN CT.
open Sun/Sat, 1-4 3bd/2bdr, 1st flr. 1000 sq. ft.
Agt. 925-757-2634

Vallejo

112 SHORE HAVEN CT.
open Sun/Sat, 1-4 3bd/2bdr, 1st flr. 1000 sq. ft.
Agt. 925-757-2634

112 SHORE HAVEN CT.
open Sun/Sat, 1-4 3bd/2bdr, 1st flr. 1000 sq. ft.
Agt. 925-757-2634

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112 SHORE HAVEN CT.
open Sun/Sat, 1-4 3bd/2bdr, 1st flr. 1000 sq. ft.
Agt. 925-757-2634

Real Estate & Finance

Cottages

ALAMO 180/1BA. Liv. rm.
d.in. rm. W.D. near Iron
Horse Trail, no pool, no
pets. \$1250. 925-632-6944

ALAMO 180+ w/m/v. w.
some pet. no pool, no
pets. \$1250. 925-632-6944

BRENTWOOD 2bd/1ba.
horse posts, avail. 1000
sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1150+sec. 925-634-9912

CONCORD charming stn.
home, 2bd/1ba, 1000 sq. ft.
\$950. Call 925-672-5554

LAFAYETTE 180. remod.
\$995 800/805-8827

LAFAYETTE 2rm. cottage,
full kit. no smk/pets. avail.
open beam ceilings, w/100
sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

OAKLAND COZY 1BD 800
Rockledge, 1000 sq. ft. 1000
sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

OAKLAND Diamond dist. 3
rm. 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

ORINDA 180. O.C.C. pvt.
w/arb. 600 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

ORINDA Rustic, 2 story town.
state remod. hls. cells.
prns. spa. W.D. ext. to
pet. \$1150. 925-939-9670

ORINDA Studio w/kit, furn.
remod. Bright w/arb. 600
sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1100. 925-939-9670

WILSON CREEK/Alamo
180/1BA w/arb. 600 sq. ft.
\$1195. 925-939-9670

Duplexes & Plex

EL Sobrante 180. W.D.
fenc. yard, car. \$600
\$1250. 925-939-9670

GLENVIEW Oakland 2BD
1BA on cul-de-sac. \$1600.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

LAFAYETTE 2bd/1ba. W.D.
fenc. yard, car. \$600
\$1250. 925-939-9670

LIVERMORE 2bd/2ba.
tennis/pool, W.D.
fenc. yard, car. \$600
\$1250. 925-939-9670

LIVERMORE Duplex 2BD/1BA.
Lndry. room, car.
port, 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1100/mo. 925-939-9670

LIVERMORE Southside
180/1BA w/arb. 600 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

OAKLAND 2bd/1BA dupl.
bay view, nr. Mills col.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

OAKLAND Lower
Rockledge, 1000 sq. ft. 1000
sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

ORINDA 2BD/1BA O.C.C.
part. furn. 1000 sq. ft. 1000
sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1200/mo. 925-939-9670

PLEASANT HILL 2BD/2BA.
pvt. bdyd. nr. shops.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

QUICK cut. creekside.
180. 2bd. pool. car.
port. 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

RICHMOND Alamo 2BD
remod. p/arb. 600 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

RICHMOND 180/1BA.
1ba \$1500. 551. 50.
\$1200/mo. 925-939-9670

RODED 1bd/2ba. 1ba.
No sec. 356. 540. 749.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

UPPER ROCKIDGE 1bd.
pvt. bdyd. nr. shops.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

WALNUT CREEK 3bd/2ba.
pvt. bdyd. nr. shops.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

WALNUT CREEK 3bd/2ba.
pvt. bdyd. nr. shops.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

Mobile Home Rentals

BRENTWOOD 15' sh. Wm.
quiet/pvt. space, 675/mo.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

ALAMEDA Deluxe 2 room
village, 1000 sq. ft. 1000
sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

CONCORD Indl. Park, 500
to 5000 sq. ft. office or pro.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

CONCORD Prime locl. 2005
S. Santos Plaza, 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

DANVILLE 50 sq. ft. pvt.
pr. 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

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pr. 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

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\$1250. 925-939-9670

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pr. 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

DANVILLE 50 sq. ft. pvt.
pr. 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

Office Rentals

PT. RICHMOND
Executive office, 625 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

SAN RAMON office space
28100 San Ramon Blvd.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

SUITE in lovely historic
bldg. 200 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

WALNUT CREEK 228 & 254
St. R. office space. Park.
ing 925-939-9670

WALNUT CREEK 2 offices for
rent, 1 bldg. from two cont.
rm. 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

WALNUT CREEK 311
Lennon Ln. Prof. off.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

WALNUT CREEK Prof. off.
space 1800 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

WALNUT CREEK 200 sq. ft.
pvt. pr. 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

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pvt. pr. 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

WALNUT CREEK 200 sq. ft.
pvt. pr. 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

Office Space Share

WALNUT CREEK 3 sep. 1st
flr. office with pvt. E2 ac.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

WALNUT CREEK 200 sq. ft.
pvt. pr. 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

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\$1250. 925-939-9670

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WALNUT CREEK 200 sq. ft.
pvt. pr. 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

Retail Lease

MARTINEZ 10,136 sq. ft. retail
office with pvt. E2 ac.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

MARTINEZ 200 sq. ft. retail
space 1800 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

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MARTINEZ 200 sq. ft. retail
space 1800 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

Room for Rent

ANTIOCH 1BD in 400
home w/pvt. BA. Female
\$500. 925-939-9670

ANTIOCH 2 rm. avail. in new
hlm. \$500 ba. conven.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

ANTIOCH 2 rms. avail. in
clean, cils. all, nego.
\$1250. 925-939-9670

ANTIOCH 2 rms. avail. in
clean home, \$500/mo. 925-
939-9670

ANTIOCH 2 rooms 4/1 &
4/20 mstr. BA \$495/\$445.
W.D. kit pvt. 925-939-9670

ANTIOCH 4500+1400+1400
+dep. Please call before
8pm. 925-939-9670

ANTIOCH 4500+1400+1400
+dep. Please call before
8pm. 925-939-9670

ANTIOCH 4500+1400+1400
+dep. Please call before
8pm. 925-939-9670

ANTIOCH 4500+1400+1400
+dep. Please call before
8pm. 925

Real Estate

Apartment • Home • Condo • Office • Stores

Rentals

DANVILLE RANCH upper level 3 bdr, 2 1/2 bath, pvt. BA, fric, gar., indry. Great view, 1000 sq. ft. \$1,200. Call 925-931-6374.

DUBLIN share 3bd/2ba hrm., \$750+1/5 utilities, 2rms. unfurn. 925-831-6374.

EL SOBRANTE 1 rm. for rent in 3BD hse, quiet, kitch, w/gh, dishwasher, 1/2 bath, 1/2 car. \$500. Call 925-931-6374.

FAIRFIELD 660/90, Green vinyl, 3 bdr, 2 1/2 bath, hrm., hot tub. 720-698-927.

LAFAYETTE \$650/mo. All utilities, pvt. phone, hrm., 1/2 bath, 1/2 car. \$675. 925-284-1575.

LIVERMORE beaut. hrm., 1/2 bath, 1/2 car. \$550. 925-519-4515.

LIVERMORE beaut. sunny hrm., 1/2 bath, 1/2 car. \$550. 925-519-4515.

LIVERMORE Furn. hrm., 1/2 bath, 1/2 car. \$500. 925-519-4515.

MARTINEZ share 3bd hrm., 1/2 bath, 1/2 car. \$500. 925-519-4515.

MARTINEZ warm-comfy 3 bdr, 2 1/2 bath, direct TV, all utilities. 925-228-1000.

MONTCLAIR upper Park B \$1000 3/10r fuvr hrm. 925-519-4515.

OAKLAND: Montclair dist. hrm., mstr. bdr. w/ba. 925-519-4515.

OAKLAND off Redwood w/2 bdr, w/2 bath, w/2 car. 925-519-4515.

OAKLAND: Palace in Piedmont Pines Sunny. 925-519-4515.

PACHICO pvt. bdr, pvt. ba, pool, 1/2 car. 925-519-4515.

PITTSBURG 800/bd, pvt. ba, 1/2 car. 925-519-4515.

PITTSBURG 800/bd, pvt. ba, 1/2 car. 925-519-4515.

PLEASANTON dwntn. 2BD, 1BA, 21 mo. maid. 925-485-6049.

PLEASANTON huge mstr. bdr, 2 1/2 bath, 1/2 car. 925-485-6049.

PLEASANTON Nonsmking. 925-485-6049.

RODEO: 3bdrms. In house. \$500. 925-485-6049.

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Alameda Apartments

18D, 925 w/Bch. Newly renovated in well-maint. quiet, secure bldg. A/EK, w/whirlpool, coin laundry, st. prking. \$1000-925-573-9274.

18D garden apt. in Victorville, 1/2 bath, 1/2 car, indry. off st. prking. w/pvt. gar. \$1085 925-713-047.

18D lagoon Cozy 4plex. Gourmet kit, crk. deck. No pets. Nonsmking. \$1000. 925-519-4515.

18D 100 Sunny upper, new crpt. paint, stove. Carp. prnt. indry. 2155 Santa. No pets. Nonsmking. \$1000. 925-519-4515.

18D quiet neighborhood new ren. apt. 1 closet, frmi dnm. eat-in kit. hrm., 1/2 bath, 1/2 car. Clean and ready to move-in. 925-519-4515.

18D 50ac upper, sunny, 1/2 bath, 1/2 car. Nonsmking. \$1000. 925-519-4515.

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Berkeley Apartments

18D, 925 w/Bch. Newly renovated in well-maint. quiet, secure bldg. A/EK, w/whirlpool, coin laundry, st. prking. \$1000-925-573-9274.

18D garden apt. in Victorville, 1/2 bath, 1/2 car, indry. off st. prking. w/pvt. gar. \$1085 925-713-047.

18D lagoon Cozy 4plex. Gourmet kit, crk. deck. No pets. Nonsmking. \$1000. 925-519-4515.

18D 100 Sunny upper, new crpt. paint, stove. Carp. prnt. indry. 2155 Santa. No pets. Nonsmking. \$1000. 925-519-4515.

18D quiet neighborhood new ren. apt. 1 closet, frmi dnm. eat-in kit. hrm., 1/2 bath, 1/2 car. Clean and ready to move-in. 925-519-4515.

18D 50ac upper, sunny, 1/2 bath, 1/2 car. Nonsmking. \$1000. 925-519-4515.

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Tote cuisine: beyond the bologna sandwich

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The leaves haven't begun to change, but I've already seen one sure sign that autumn is almost at our doorstep. At my neighborhood supermarket, an enormous display bin filled last month with bologna sandwiches — is now piled high with brown lunch bags. "100 to a package," that's a lot of school and office lunches waiting to be made. With take-out and delivered food so readily available, you might think that grown-ups have stopped carrying lunches to work. But the January 2001 issue of *American Demographics* cited a Datamonitor survey indicating that 80 percent of office workers bring a lunch from home every day and that 45 percent bring a home-packed lunch at least once a week.

Their reasons vary. Some want to work through lunch. Some run errands and wait down a sandwich afterward. Others are following doctor-prescribed diets or counting calories, or counting calories, or working the night shift.

Rosemarie Detweiler, a customer service associate with Procter & Gamble Co. in Hammond, Pa., usually brought her lunch to work because she felt that the company cafeteria offerings were subpar. "I was always bringing my lunch," she says. "I was always bringing my lunch."

What's in her lunch bag? Fresh fruit, crispies for snacking, and perhaps a sandwich of reduced-fat turkey on lettuce or homemade tuna-mashed potato toast, or corn with fruit, or yogurt, dried spring rolls, and an herbal sweetener.

Donna Scott, a 40-year-old Washburn member, works in the same department as Detweiler. She typically brings four pieces of fresh fruit to work each day along with small portions of dinner leftovers, such as meat, lentils, soups, or macaroni and cheese. "I have low-fat rice cakes, apples, and oranges," she says. "I have low-fat rice cakes, apples, and oranges."

And, like Detweiler, she's conscious of her intake in college. "I was eating a lot of food," she says. "I was eating a lot of food."

At lunchtime, restaurant meals or designer fashions are not at the top of her list. "I don't eat at McDonald's, or Burger King, or Wendy's," she says. "I don't eat at McDonald's, or Burger King, or Wendy's."

A lot of times, lunch is an apple and a banana. "I'll bring an apple and a banana," she says. "I'll bring an apple and a banana."

And some days, she'll bring a salad. "I'll bring a salad," she says. "I'll bring a salad."

She'll bring a salad. "I'll bring a salad," she says. "I'll bring a salad."



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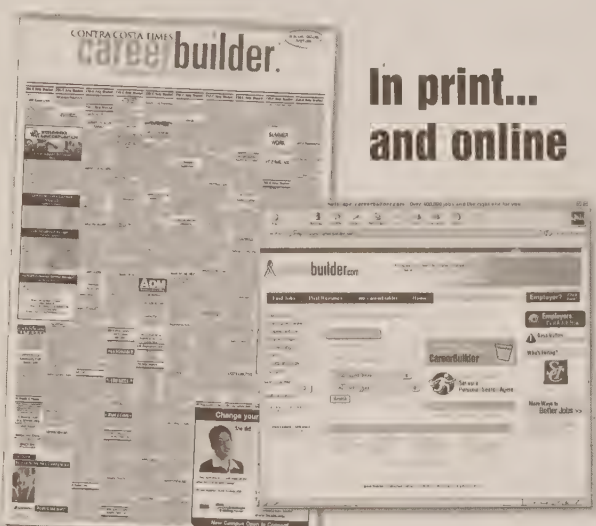
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Auto Plus

Advertising supplement to The Montclair, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Friday, August 24, 2001

Section D

Classic Classics: MGB still going strong [D3]

DAVE VAN SICKLE

Most gas-saving gadgets fall short of touted claims

When gasoline prices began to rise to do motorists' concern about fuel economy.

Not so coincidentally, a jump in gas prices has inspired the vigorous advertising of "gas-saving" gadgets, marketed by a host of soundly established names.

The venerable Jiffy Lube franchise has a long history of promoting its oil-change services, and its latest offering is a "gas-saving" device.

When you add a device to your car's fuel system, it can help improve fuel economy, according to the company.

But when you add a device to your car's fuel system, it can help improve fuel economy, according to the company.

When you add a device to your car's fuel system, it can help improve fuel economy, according to the company.

When you add a device to your car's fuel system, it can help improve fuel economy, according to the company.



ACURA RSX TYPE-S like fun, the sports car to drive and much roomier and less noisy than expected. The RSX Type-S is easy on the eyes, too.

Acura RSX makes shifting much more enjoyable

In spite of summer's heat, the hot little 2002 Acura RSX Type-S puts fun back into driving. This sports car's six-speed manual transmission is a joy to use, and the car's handling is top-notch. The RSX Type-S is a fun car to drive, and it's also a great car to look at. The car's design is sleek and modern, and it has a lot of character. The RSX Type-S is a car that you'll want to drive every day.

TOM KEANE

Auto Writer

The RSX Type-S is a fun car to drive, and it's also a great car to look at. The car's design is sleek and modern, and it has a lot of character. The RSX Type-S is a car that you'll want to drive every day.

New, used or classic... every Friday in Auto Plus.

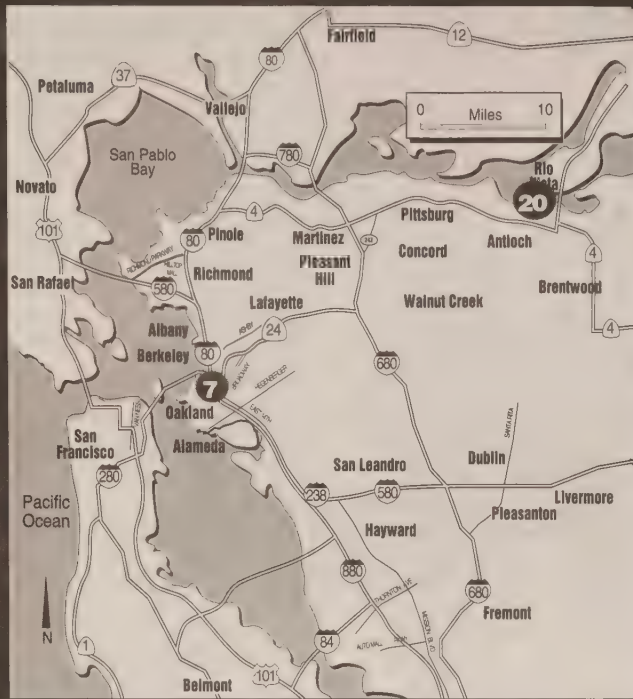
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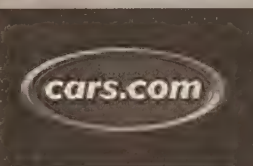


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Friday, April 4, 2003

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wasabi (wuh-SAH-bee) has a delicate herbal flavor and less heat than the horseradish imitations.

KAREN SCHIELY/AKRON BEACON JOURNAL

It's hot in food world, but is it the real stuff?

BY JANE SNOW
KNIGHT RIDER NEWSPAPERS

If you knew sushi like I know sushi, you'd smell a raw deal.

The fiery green condiment that complements fish and clears your sinuses isn't real wasabi. Most of the stuff served in this country is just horseradish and mustard powder dyed green.

Real wasabi (wuh-SAH-bee) is a pale, greenish yellow. It has a delicate herbal flavor and less heat than the horseradish imitations.

"It's 100 times better than the ones used in the States," said Jack Suen, whose family owns the House of Hunan restaurants and sushi bars in Akron, Ohio.

Suen tasted real wasabi on a trip to Taiwan, where the root is reverently grated tableside on a shark-skin grater. Even in China and Japan, fresh wasabi is a treat found in only the best restaurants, Suen said.

Suen's restaurants use imitation wasabi because the real thing is expensive and hard to find in the United States. But scarcity hasn't kept a passion for wasabi from washing across the country.

In the last five years, wasabi has spread from Japanese sushi bars to mainstream American restaurant kitchens. It is the hot ingredient of the moment in top restaurants from coast to coast. It is stirred into bloody Marys, added to cream sauces and spread over grilled tuna.

"It works well in lieu of horseradish in a lot of dishes. It gives it that Asian fusion edge," said Mark Simak, chef at Moe's Restaurant in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, where ahi tuna with wasabi potato cake is a frequent special.

Wasabi is popular, in part, because it's a risk-free rush. Unlike the lingering heat of hot chillies, the sting of wasabi quickly fades.

Chefs like to experiment with the sting and the attractive green color, adding wasabi to everything from mashed potatoes to cheesecake. Food manufacturers have joined in. Westfield Farms in Massachusetts makes a wasabi-flavored goat cheese, and a Taste of the Kingdom in St. Louis makes wasabi jelly.

Simak and other chefs are making sure that their diners aren't left out of the trend. At Beau's Grille in Fairlawn, Ohio, chef Beau Schmidt drizzles wasabi-spiked cream around sesame-crusted ahi tuna steaks in Szechuan sauce. Schmidt also uses wasabi in his popular tuna tartare tower appetizer — layers of raw tuna, avocado, purple onions and cucumber crowned with seaweed salad and drizzled with wasabi cream and citrus vinaigrette.

Before you start tinkering with wasabi in your own kitchen, though, you should at least acknowledge a few hundred years of wasabi history.

Wasabi has been used in Japan for about four centuries as an accompaniment to raw fish. It is the above-ground rhizome of a leafy plant that grows along river banks in cool areas. It is a crucifer from the same family of plants as broccoli, cabbage and horseradish.

Today in Japan, wasabi is cultivated in shallow, rushing streams. Plants take at least 1 and 1/2 years to mature. They cannot tolerate direct sunlight, frost or heat. Chilly summers and frost-free winters are necessary for their survival.

Touchy, touchy. That's why almost no wasabi is grown in the United States. The lone U.S. commercial wasabi farm grew rhizomes year-round for just three years before scaling back cultivation in 2000. Pacific Farms in Florence, Ore., still grows plants to ship to consumers

See WASABI, Page 2

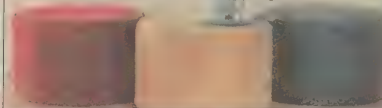
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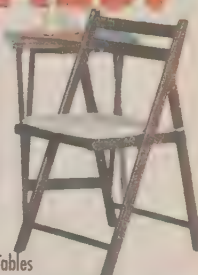


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Lighter make and bake ziti casserole

BY ELAINE MAGEE

KNIGHT RIDER/TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Q: A coworker brought this dish in to work one day and it was a huge hit. It's become one of my family's favorite dinners. Can you lighten it up so it isn't quite so rich?

A: I really liked this pasta dish. It is definitely one I will go out of my way to make again and again. I had a hard time finding "ziti" noodles, so I substituted penne noodles.

I doubled the onion and used an extra lean ground beef (6 percent fat) to make the meat sauce. I also switched to a great-tasting fat free sour cream and increased the amount a little. I used part-skim mozzarella instead of regular provolone and mozzarella and used half as much. I did keep the Parmesan cheese though because it seemed to top it off perfectly.

The calories jumped down from 502 to 368, fat from 27 to 10 grams, and saturated fat from 13

to 3.5 grams!

You can double this recipe and make it in a 9-x-13-inch baking dish if you want to make this for a party or pot luck.

MAKE-AND-BAKE ZITI CASSEROLE

½ pound dry ziti or penne pasta noodles

1 onion, chopped

½ pound very lean ground beef or ground sirloin

26-ounce bottle marinara sauce (you can find lower sodium marinara sauce in most supermarkets)

1 cup fat free sour cream (light can also be used)

2/3 cup shredded part-skim mozzarella cheese

2 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese

1. Preheat oven to 350-degrees. Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil Add the pasta noodles and cook until al dente, about

8 minutes; drain.

2. In large nonstick skillet, brown onion and ground beef over medium heat. Add marinara sauce, cover and simmer 15 minutes.

3. Coat a 8-x-8 or 9-x-9-inch baking dish with canola or olive oil cooking spray. Add half of the noodles, then half the cheese, sour cream, and meat sauce. Top with the remaining noodles, cheese, sour cream and meat sauce. Sprinkle Parmesan cheese over the top.

4. Bake 30 minutes or until cheeses are melted.

Makes 6 servings.

Elaine Magee is author of "The Recipe Doctor Cookbook" and "Tell Me What to Eat If I Have Acid Reflux." Elaine's new book, "The Flax Cookbook," is now available in bookstores and amazon.com. Readers may write to her through her Web site at www.recipe-doctor.com. Personal responses cannot be provided.

SWITCHING TO

leaner ground beef for the meat sauce and using a fat-free sour cream are a couple of steps to lighten the fat and calories in this delicious pasta dish.



RECIPE DOCTOR ART PHOTOGRAPH

Wasabi

FROM PAGE 1

who want to try to grow them as a hobby, but large-scale commercial production of fresh roots is on hold.

Pacific Farms imports frozen roots to make into fresh wasabi paste. The paste is sold to about 60 chefs in the United States who prize the fresh flavor, said Bridgett Klinger, accounts manager.

We taste-tested it against powder-based horseradish wasabi paste, and the difference was remarkable. The Pacific Farms paste is very similar in flavor and heat to fresh-grated wasabi root, said Suen.

The paste isn't as fragile as the fresh-grated root, but still it must be shipped on ice and refrigerated, unlike paste made from horseradish powder. The fresh paste keeps for one to two months in the refrigerator and up to two years in the freezer before it begins to lose flavor and heat.

In comparison, freshly grated wasabi root begins to deteriorate within hours.

(An order of six 1.53-ounce tubes of wasabi paste is \$39.45, including shipping, from Pacific Farms. Phone 800-927-2248, Ext. 313.)

Officials at Pacific Farms hope to restart the commercial growing operation soon, said Patrick Burke,

manager of sales and marketing. Pacific Farms' wasabi is prized in Japan because it is grown, not in soil like Chinese wasabi, but in water like the more delicate Japanese product. At Pacific Farms, wasabi plants are grown hydroponically in caves, in constantly circulating water.

Until the supply of wasabi increases, though, most fans will continue to make do with horseradish paste. That's OK, because horseradish is related to wasabi, and the flavor isn't too far afield.

If you use horseradish paste in the following recipes, you might have to adjust the amount, though. Faux wasabi is a bit hotter than real wasabi.

We're skipping the more bizarre wasabi creations, such as the wasabi ice cream that Burke recalls, and offering recipes for fusion-cuisine standards — wasabi mayonnaise, wasabi mashed potatoes and wasabi cream sauce. We're also throwing in a recipe for wasabi garlic wings.

Visit www.freshwasabi.com for more recipes.

Wasabi recipes

All the following are adapted from recipes provided by Pacific Farms.

WASABI GARLIC WINGS

¾ cup creamy garlic salad dressing
1 to 2 tablespoons wasabi

paste, depending on desired heat

1 pound chicken drumettes

½ teaspoon salt

½ teaspoon pepper

Combine dressing and wasabi paste, mixing well. Place chicken drumettes in shallow bowl. Season with salt and pepper. Pour ½ cup dressing over chicken and stir. Cover and refrigerate about 1 hour.

Remove wings from marinade. Grill over coals, turning, for about 5 minutes or until almost cooked through. Baste with remaining dressing.

WASABI MASHED POTATOES

1 medium head garlic

¾ cup milk

12 potatoes

1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened

2 tablespoons wasabi paste, or to taste

Salt, pepper to taste
Separate garlic into cloves and peel off papery skin. Place in small saucepan with milk. Cover and simmer for 15 to 20 minutes, until garlic is soft. Set aside to steep.

Peel and quarter the potatoes. Place in a large pot and cover with water. Bring to a boil and simmer until soft, about 20 minutes. Drain. Add butter and roughly mash.

With a slotted spoon, remove garlic cloves from milk and add to

SAUSAGE AND CHERRY

TOMATO SAUCE

With Pasta
This is something to put together at lightning speed, with ingredients that could already be on your pantry shelves, within arm's reach. The easy recipe is from Family Circle magazine.



AP PHOTOMARK FERRER

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This pasta sauce is something you can put together at lightning speed. Another advantage: The ingredients providing its substance as well as its flavor could all be on your pantry shelves, within arm's reach.

Allow about 20 minutes to make the dish, a sausage and cherry tomato sauce with spaghetti or cappellini, using a recipe from the Meals in Minutes feature in the April 1 issue of Family Circle magazine.

"Pasta seems extra special served with a homemade sauce," says senior food editor Julie Miltenberger. "And it doesn't take hours of simmering. The proof: Sausages and cherry tomatoes

meld nicely in just 15 minutes."

SAUSAGE AND CHERRY TOMATO SAUCE WITH PASTA

1 pound Italian sausage, casings removed

3 cloves garlic, thinly sliced

Two 8-ounce cans regular tomato sauce, or basil, garlic and oregano tomato sauce

12-ounce package cherry tomatoes (about 2 cups), each tomato halved

½ teaspoon dried basil

½ teaspoon salt

¼ teaspoon black pepper

¾ pound spaghetti or cappellini

2 tablespoons grated Parmesan or Romano cheese

Coat large nonstick skillet with nonstick cooking spray. Heat skillet over medium-high heat. Sauté sausage, cook, breaking wooden spoon, 5 minutes; garlic, cook until sausage longer pink, about 2 minutes. Add tomato sauce, cherry tomatoes, basil, salt and pepper; slightly thickened and to have collapsed slightly, 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, cook spaghetti in large pot of lightly salted water until al dente, firm to the bite. Drain.

Transfer spaghetti to large platter. Pour sauce over spaghetti. Serve immediately, topped with cheese, if desired.

Preparation time 50 minutes. Cooking time 15 minutes, 10 minutes. Serves 4.

GRILLED TUNA SANDWICH WITH WASABI MAYONNAISE

3 tablespoons rice wine vinegar

¾ teaspoon grated fresh ginger

2 tablespoons sugar

1 and ½ teaspoon minced shallot

1 tablespoon vegetable oil

4 tuna steaks (5 to 6 ounces each)

¼ teaspoon salt

Wasabi mayonnaise (recipe follows)

8 slices ciabatta bread, lightly toasted

3 cups packed baby salad greens

Combine vinegar, ginger, sugar and shallot in a bowl. Set aside.

Brush oil over both sides of tuna steaks. Sprinkle with salt. Grill or broil for 2 to 3 minutes per side for medium-rare.

Spread wasabi mayonnaise evenly on four slices bread. Toss salad greens with vinaigrette in

bowl; divide and arrange on remaining bread slices. Top tuna steaks on greens. To serve, spread.

Makes 4 sandwiches.

WASABI MAYONNAISE

1 egg

1 tablespoon Dijon mustard

1 tablespoon freshly squeezed lemon juice

1 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon pepper

1 teaspoon sugar

1 cup canola oil

1 tablespoon wasabi paste

Place egg, mustard, juice, salt, pepper and blender or food processor. Blend to combine. With running on high speed, drizzle canola oil. Continue blending until mayonnaise is thick. Scrape bowl and stir in wasabi paste. Refrigerate.

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ce to the occasion: Risotto is both comfort food and special-occasion dish

PATRICIA RODRIGUEZ
NIGHT RIDER NEWSPAPERS

My mother was feeling good for The Hill, the Italian neighborhood in St. Louis where she grew up. She usually went into the neighborhood to get a little blue, but she was just a little blue, not a full-blown blues. It was a full-blown blues, one where she played her Tony Bennett records and talked to herself in Italian. I'd make risotto.

Like pasta, which my mother would throw together with whatever was on hand and without thinking, making risotto took attention to detail. In the small farm town where we lived, some planning. I had to have the right kind of rice, the chubby, short-grain rice that was usually grown in California, and back then, available in Italian import stores. She had enough time to make risotto. I had to have the right spices — for classic risotto Milanese — the kind she always made, saffron and a big chunk of Parmigiano-Reggiano. And mostly, I had to have the right kind of patience. It took 40 minutes, pouring and stirring, then finally she pronounced it just right.

These days, risotto may be on restaurant menus and supermarket shelves, but it's usually not like homemade. Few restaurants cook individual orders of the time-consuming dish; instead, most chefs partially cook the rice ahead of time, then finish it with specific flavorings and more stock, which are added when an order comes in.

At home, I've tried the instant

Risotto is very different in texture from dishes using long-grain rice, such as Asian fried rice or fluffy-dry pilafs. Just like pasta, risotto is supposed to be served "al dente" — each fat grain of rice-cooked till barely soft outside, barely firm inside. A perfect risotto is rich and creamy, thick enough that it holds its shape on the plate and that each grain seems to melt into the next, and so full of fat and flavor that it seems to melt in your mouth.

In most risotto recipes, finely chopped onion is cooked in butter or oil (or a combination of the two), then the raw rice is also cooked in the fat. Hot stock — chicken, beef, or fish — is slowly added to the rice, a small amount at a time, until the rice has absorbed at least three times its volume in liquid. During the cooking process, other flavoring ingredients are added, finally producing a rich melange of thick rice grains held together by a creamy sauce.

Simple as it is, many home cooks shy away from even trying to make risotto, fearing the demands of time and technique. (Cooking risotto is kind of like learning to ice-skate; the technique isn't difficult, but you will have to go through some trial and error till you get it right.)

Instead, some intimidated cooks resort to the instant risotto mixes that have hit the market en masse in recent years, or simply order it while dining out. Restaurant risotto can be excellent, but it's usually not like homemade. Few restaurants cook individual orders of the time-consuming dish; instead, most chefs partially cook the rice ahead of time, then finish it with specific flavorings and more stock, which are added when an order comes in.

At home, I've tried the instant

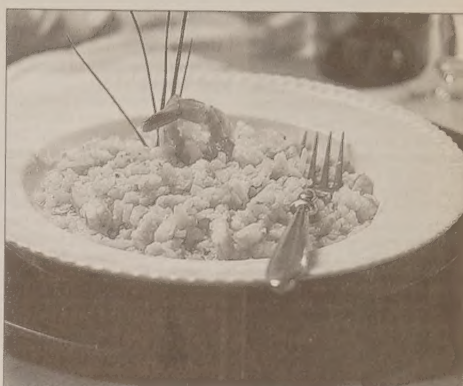
mixes (mostly they were disappointing) and I've tried making it from scratch, with varying degrees of success. Unfortunately, my mother didn't give me her risotto recipe before she died, so I've never been quite able to duplicate it. This very basic recipe — taken from a cookbook she loved — comes pretty close.

RISOTTO ALLA MILANESE
6 to 8 cups chicken broth (homemade if possible)

5 tablespoons butter
1 medium onion, finely chopped
2 1/2 cups arborio rice
3/4 cup dry white wine
1/2 teaspoon saffron
1/2 cup Parmigiano-Reggiano, freshly grated
Pinch of salt
Additional Parmigiano-Reggiano, grated
Heat chicken broth in medium saucepan. Melt 4 tablespoons but-

ter in a large saucepan. When butter foams, add onion. Sauté over medium heat until pale yellow. Add rice and mix well. When rice is coated with butter, add wine. Cook, stirring constantly, until wine has evaporated. Stir in one or two ladles of broth, or enough to cover rice. Stir over medium heat until broth has been absorbed. Continue cooking and stirring rice, adding broth a little bit at a time, until rice is done, 15 to 20 minutes. Rice should be tender but firm to the bite. In a small bowl, dissolve saffron in a little hot broth and add to rice mixture. Stir in 1/2 cup Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese, pinch of salt and 1 tablespoon butter. Place in a warm dish. Serve immediately with the additional grated cheese. Makes 6 servings.

Adapted from "Northern Italian Cooking" by Biba Caggiano (HP Books, out of print).



RON T. ENNIS/FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

CREAMY RISOTTO is as common as spaghetti in Italy.

Honey is a sweet addition to ham

NAPSI

A traditional Easter feast isn't complete without a succulent ham, and nothing complements a ham better than honey. Whether paired with spicy cloves or topped with rings of juicy pineapple, a honey-glazed ham is always the star of the Easter buffet.

Honey comes in hundreds of varieties, depending on the floral source the honey bee visits, so there are limitless options this Easter. A rich, dark buckwheat honey perfectly complements a slow-baked ham, while a light, floral clover honey adds sweetness to a tangy vinaigrette, amply topping mixed greens or fresh spring vegetables.

The sweet flavor of honey goes well with other seasonal treats, too. Honey is delicious baked into scrumptious hot cross buns or whipped into creamy butter and spread on muffins.

Just in time for Easter enjoyment, the National Honey Board has a delicious honey-glazed ham recipe that

is sure to be a longtime family favorite.

For additional honey recipes, go to www.honey.com.

PINEAPPLE HONEY-GLAZED HAM

1 (4 to 5 lb.) fully cooked boneless ham
1/3 cup honey
1 (8 oz.) can pineapple slices
1 tablespoon ground mustard
Dash of ground cloves
Bake ham on rack in shallow baking pan at 325°F for one hour or to 120°F on a meat thermometer. Drain pineapple; reserve juice. Combine reserved juice, honey, mustard and cloves; mix well. Score top of ham, if desired, and arrange pineapple slices on top. Generously brush honey mixture over entire surface. Bake about 30-45 minutes longer or to 140°F; baste every 10 minutes. Let stand 10-15 minutes before slicing. Makes 12 to 16 servings

Looking for ways to spice up honey-glazed ham leftovers?

■ Place slices of ham between flaky biscuits and drizzle with honey for a sweet and savory snack
■ Chop up leftover ham and mix into a chef's salad topped with honey-dijon dressing.



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A few tweaks — same moussaka taste but less fat

BY DONNA PIERCE
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Q: The enclosed moussaka recipe gets regular kudos from guests. However, as years pass, more of our guests are watching their fat and cholesterol intake. Can the fat content be reduced and the flavor maintained? — Pat Shanower, Naperville, Ill.

A: We adapted your recipe, originally from a McCall's Cooking School cookbook, in the test kitchen. It took two attempts to lower the fat, yet keep the taste. Our first try proved too drastic a cutback in flavor. But the second try, using egg substitute and replacing whole milk with skim milk, represents what one taster described as a "delicious compromise."

Q: In baking chignon cake, can I line the bottom of the tube pan with parchment paper? My tube pan doesn't have a removable bottom. I've been having a difficult time removing the cake from the pan after it has cooled. — Helen Gall, Oswego, Ill.

A: Lining the bottom of the tube pan should pose little problem. We tested a basic recipe in an unlined and in a parchment-lined pan with equal success.

However, many baking books advise against greasing or fully lining pans intended for chignon cake, because how you cool the cake also is important: Professional bakers suggest cooling the cake for 3 hours in the pan placed upside down over a bottle to support it. This sets the structure of the cake and results in the best, lightest texture. If the pan has been fully greased, the cake could slip out before being completely cooled.

Q: So many recipes call for artichoke, but it really doesn't seem to be available. Where in can I purchase it? What would you suggest as an alternative? — Maureen H. Murphy, Oak Lawn, Ill.

A: Artichoke, a peppery-tasting green is regularly in the produce sections at some grocery and many specialty stores. It is occasionally sold

with packaged herbs in some supermarkets.

As it has gained popularity, your chance of finding it in more supermarkets should increase.

It also is available at many area farmers markets, especially in the spring and fall. And cooks with even limited gardening experience will find artichoke very easy to grow in a garden or container.

According to Webster's New World Dictionary of Culinary Arts, artichoke also is known as rocket, rugula and rucola. It often is used in Italian cooking, so you also may find it in Italian specialty markets.

When you can't find artichoke, you can substitute tender mustard greens or spinach.

LIGHTER MOUSSAKA

1 eggplant, about 1 pound, cut crosswise into 1/2-inch slices
1/2 teaspoon salt
Freshly ground pepper
3/4 pound ground lamb
1/2 onion, finely chopped

1 clove garlic, minced
1 can (8 ounces) tomato sauce
1 tablespoon tomato paste
1/2 teaspoon dried basil
1/4 teaspoon each: dried oregano, cinnamon
2 tablespoons dried bread crumbs
Cheese sauce:
1 tablespoon butter
2 tablespoons flour
1 cup skim milk
2 ounces egg substitute, equal to 1 egg
1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
1/4 cup grated Cheddar cheese

1. Put eggplant on greased pan; season with salt and pepper. Broil until golden, turning once, 4 minutes per side; set aside. Brown lamb in skillet over medium heat. Add onion and garlic; cook until soft, about 3 minutes. Add tomato sauce and paste, basil, oregano, cinnamon, and salt and pepper to taste; reduce to simmer. Cook 30 minutes; remove from heat. Stir in bread crumbs; set aside.



BOB FILA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

THIS LIGHTENED VERSION of moussaka, a lamb and eggplant casserole originally from Greece, still is a rich main dish.

2. Heat oven to 350 degrees. For sauce, melt butter in saucepan over medium heat; add flour. Cook 1 minute, stirring. Whisk in skim milk. Increase heat to medium high. Cook, stirring occasionally, until thick, about 5 minutes. Remove from heat.

3. Pour egg substitute into small bowl; stir in 1 tablespoon of the heated sauce. Repeat, stirring. Add warmed egg mixture to sauce. Whisk in 1/4 cup of the Parmesan cheese;

remove from heat.

4. Layer half the eggplant, top of 8-inch square greased role pan, overlapping slightly with 1/4 cup Parmesan cheese sauce and second layer of top with white sauce and cheese. Bake until golden, about 40 minutes.

Preparation time: 15 minutes; cooking time: 1 hour, 30 minutes. Makes 6 servings.

Lighter Tiramisu — same great taste without the guilt

BY ELAINE MAGEE
KNIGHT RIDDER/TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Q: One of my favorite desserts is Tiramisu. I order it at restaurants every chance I get. I would love to know if you have ever lightened this dish up. If so, please share with the rest of us!

A: As I researched Tiramisu recipes, I quickly discovered there are literally hundreds of different Tiramisu versions out there. I took things I liked from several of them to create a version I hope is easier to make and delicious to eat!

There was no way I was going to make ladyfingers from scratch since I could purchase perfectly good ones from my grocery store. If you can't find them in your supermarket though, you can use thinly sliced light pound cake or yellow cake in its place.

I ended up brewing a tasty syrup (to drizzle over the ladyfingers) us-

ing a little bit of sugar (I used less than many of the recipes called for), boiling water, strong coffee and kahlua.

Now for the filling — usually it's made with 8 ounces of mascarpone cheese (which is extremely rich and creamy), 2 cups powdered sugar, 1/4 cup rum and 2 cups heavy cream. I decided to whip up a filling using some light cream cheese and part-skim ricotta instead of the mascarpone cheese, 1 1/2 cups powdered sugar, the rum, and 1 cup of heavy cream. I decided to go with half as much of the real thing in this dessert's case. If you use light whipping cream, it will work, but it will take longer to thicken. To make up for the lost heavy cream, I added a 6-ounce container of low-fat vanilla yogurt. It all blended together into a creamy, fluffy, delicious filling that seemed to work very well with the syrup and

ladyfingers. And, the best part was, this stylish dessert was actually quite simple to make (about 20 minutes from start to finish).

Original recipe contains 315 calories, 19 grams of fat, 12 g saturated fat, 83 mg cholesterol per serving.

20-MINUTE TIRAMISU

2 packages (3 ounces each) ladyfingers

Syrup:
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1/2 cup boiling water
1/2 cup strong coffee
1/3 cup kahlua

Filling:
3/4 cup light cream cheese
1/3 cup part-skim ricotta
1 1/2 cups powdered sugar
1/4 cup dark or light rum
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
6 ounces lowfat vanilla yogurt
1 cup heavy whipping cream
Topping:
1/4 cup baking cocoa for dusting
16 coffee beans to top each serving

1. To make the syrup, stir together the syrup ingredients in small saucepan and bring to a medium

boil. Let boil for about 5 minutes; set aside.

2. For filling, add cream cheese, ricotta cheese, powdered sugar, rum, vanilla extract and vanilla yogurt into large mixing bowl and beat on low to blend well, scraping the bottom and sides of the bowl. With mixer on low, gradually pour in the heavy whipping cream. Cover the bowl with plastic wrap (so it doesn't splatter while it whips), increase the speed to medium-high and beat until nicely thickened (about 2 to 2 1/2 minutes).

3. To assemble, line the bottom and sides of a 9-inch springform of the bottom of a 9 x 13-inch pan with a layer of the ladyfingers. Drizzle 4-6 tablespoons of the syrup over the top. Spread half of the filling over the syrup-soaked ladyfingers. Cover with the remaining ladyfingers and drizzle about 6-8 tablespoons of the syrup over the top. Spread the remaining filling over the top and use a scraper to smooth the top.

4. Cover and refrigerate until ready to serve. Before serving, dust the top with cocoa (using a sifter or dusting cup) and top each serving with a coffee bean.



RECIPE DOCTOR KRT PHOTOGRAPH

TIRAMISU CAN BE lightened by switching to light cream cheese and lowfat vanilla yogurt in place of the rich mascarpone cheese filling.

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but humans have been chewing various gums, resins and latex secretions of plants for thousands of years. Mastic gum has been chewed by Mediterranean peoples for thousands of years, and Native Americans chewed the resin from spruce trees. The first commercial chewing gum, State of Maine Spruce Gum was introduced in 1850. It was made using spruce tree resin, which had a harsh taste and tough texture. (I believe it is still available in northern New England). In 1871 Thomas Adams patented

chicle gum, with sugar and saffraflavoring. It had the right chewing properties with no harsh taste or texture, and it caught on quickly with the American public. This was soon followed (by other companies) with peppermint flavored gum in 1885, Chiclets (gum with a hard sugar coating in 1900, Juicy Fruit and Spearmint flavors in 1893, and finally bubble gum in 1928.

The country with the largest number of chewing gum manufacturers is Turkey, with more than 60

companies manufacturing chewing gum.

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W.F. Semple of Mount Vernon, Ohio, patented chewing gum in 1869.

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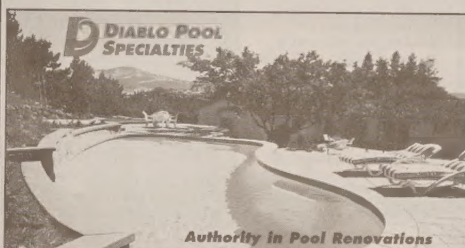
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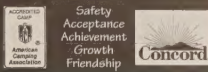
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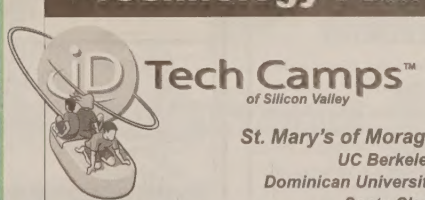
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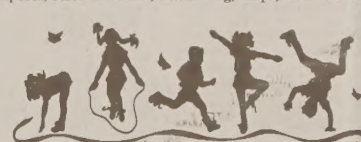
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